

# **BLACK SLUICE**

## **INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD**



## **Executive Committee Meeting**

**Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at 2pm**

**Station Road, Swineshead, Lincolnshire PE20 3PW**



# Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board

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Our Ref: DW/JL/B10

Your Ref:

Date: 27<sup>th</sup> May 2025

## **To the Chairperson and Members of the Executive Committee**

Notice is hereby given that a Meeting of the Executive Committee will be held at the Offices of the Board on Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at 2:00pm at which your attendance is requested.

*D. Withmatt*

Chief Executive

## **A G E N D A**

1. Recording the meeting.
2. Apologies for absence.
3. Declarations of interest.
4. To receive and, if correct, sign the Minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2025 **(pages 1 - 13)**
5. To receive and, if correct, sign the Confidential Minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2025 **(pages 14 & 15)**
6. Matters arising.
7. To receive a report on the Board's Brewin Dolphin portfolios from James Scott of Brewin Dolphin **(page 16)**
8. To review and approve accounts of Bourne Fen Farm Account **(pages 17 & 18)**
9. To receive a report on the 2024/25 accounts **(pages 19 - 21)**
  - (a) Period 12 Management Accounts **(pages 22 - 27)**
  - (b) 2024/25 Schemes Report **(pages 28 & 29)**
  - (c) Draft 2024/25 Unaudited Financial Statements **(pages 30 - 44)**
  - (d) Annual Governance & Accountability Return for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 (AGAR) **(pages 45 - 50)**
10. To receive the 2024/25 Annual Internal Audit Report **(pages 51 - 58)**
11. To receive an update on 2025/26 Budgets:
  - (a) Updated 2025/26 10 Year Schemes Budget **(page 59)**
  - (b) Updated 2025/26 10 Plant Replacement Budget and report on replacement machines **(pages 60 - 63)**
  - (c) Updated 10-year estimates to reflect Scheme Updates and 2024/25 year end position **(page 64)**
12. To review the Board's insurance cover in relation to business interruption and cyber **(pages 65 - 84)**
13. To review compliance with The Eels (England and Wales) Regulations 2009 Section 17 **(pages 85 - 89)**
14. Any other business.
  - (a) Mobile Phone Contract – H&S concerns **(page 90)**
  - (b) Fens 2100+ Spring 2025 Newsletter **(pages 91 - 96)**
  - (c) **CONFIDENTIAL** - To receive a HR update **(verbal)**

**BLACK SLUICE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD**

**MINUTES**

of the proceedings of a meeting of the Executive Committee

held at the offices of the Board on  
21<sup>st</sup> January 2025 at 2pm

**Members**

Chairperson - \* Mr P Holmes

\* Cllr P Bedford

\* Mr M Leggott

\* Cllr D Middleton

\* Mr R Needham

\* Mr M Rollinson

\* Mr C Wray

\* Member Present

In attendance: Mr D Withnall (Chief Executive)  
Mr P Nicholson (Projects Director)

The Chairperson welcomed members, Cllr D Middleton, Mr R Needham and Mr C Wray to their first Executive committee meeting.

2409 Recording the Meeting - Agenda Item 1

Committee members were informed that the meeting would be recorded.

2410 Apologies for absence - Agenda Item 2

There were no apologies of absence.

2411 Declarations of Interest - Agenda Item 3

There were no declarations of interest.

2412 Terms of Reference - Executive Committee - Agenda Item 4

There were no proposed amendments to the current Terms of Reference, however, it was noted that there is currently a requirement for two members of each of the Works Committee to be on the Executive Committee, but with the current membership, this is not the case (only one member from Southern Works). It was therefore suggested that this be removed to allow for more flexible membership rather than trying to 'tick a box'. It was further noted that all Executive Committee Members are invited to both works committee inspections and meetings anyway.

All AGREED to recommend the Executive Committee's Terms of Reference to the Board for approval, with the suggestion that the following criteria, '*The Board shall ensure that there are at least two members from each Works Committee on the Executive Committee*', be removed.

**2413 Minutes of the Meeting - Agenda Item 5**

Minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2024, copies of which had been circulated, were considered and it was AGREED that they should be signed as a true record.

**2414 Confidential Minutes of the Meeting - Agenda Item 6**

Confidential Minutes of the last meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2024, copies of which had been circulated, were considered and it was AGREED that they should be signed as a true record, with an amended typing error - £500,0000 should be £500,000.

**2415 Matters Arising - Agenda Item 7**

**(a) Pumping Station Structural Review (Swineshead Pumping Station) – Minute 2364(a)**

The Chief Executive confirmed that Swineshead Pumping Station has had the locks changed and a permit to work system is in place for entry to the building (no entry at all when pumps running).

The Projects Director briefly noted the reference to a possible £1.5million of funding for Ewerby Pumping Station (that may have been able to be transferred to fund Swineshead Pumping Station), confirming that this has not been successful but that the Board have recently been informed that they have achieved indicative funding of £6.3 million through Flood Defence Grant in Aid for 2025/26.

**(b) IDB Recovery Funding - Minute 2364(d)**

The Projects Director reminded the committee of the IDB Recovery Fund and the various Tranches as below:

- Tranche 1: £25 million available (Board achieved £2.7million). Must be spent by 31 March 2025.
- Tranche 2: £31 million available (Board achieved £500,000). Must be spent by 31 March 2025. Business cases still to be submitted and approved.
- Tranche 2b: £19 million available. Must be spent by 31 March 2026. Expressions of interest submitted, results due 28 February 2025.

The four pumping stations (Ewerby, South Kyme, Trinity College and Damford) with water flow around or near the pumping stations during high water volumes (causing potential further damage to banks and foundations of pumping stations) have not been successful in attracting funding from Tranche 2. Expressions of interest for this funding have been submitted into Tranche 2b but the results of this won't be known until 28 February 2025. It was also added that the Board had submitted an expression of interest for further funding for bank slips to Tranche 2 which was unsuccessful, which has been moved into Tranche 2b, however, the Board's Officer's are going to play the importance of this down in the hope to attract the funding required for the four pumping stations as above (c£6.5million). It was noted that all IDBs in the country are competing for this funding.

The Projects Director further added that the Board had an audit from the Environment Agency (EA) to view some of the works completed through this funding. They were shown Helpringham Pumping Station which achieved funding for refurbishment of the pump and motor and replacement of motor control centre. However, a supply change is required from National Grid which is still ongoing. The Projects Director was honest with the EA regarding this situation and the concern that it wouldn't be completed by 31 March 2025, noting that the orders have been placed. The EA were not concerned about this, adding that they are not looking to receive any monies back, with their main priority being to ensure that there was enough funding for the Board to be able to successfully complete the works.

The Chief Executive added that central government funding (£3million) has been committed for the special levy paying councils again, it is not yet known how it will be split between the councils.

(c) Board's response to the Phase 2 Consultation for the Lincolnshire Reservoir - Minute 2364(e)

Cllr D Middleton referred to the note in the minutes about the South Forty Foot Drain (SFFD) having to be navigable by law and the potential deepening of the SFFD; questioning who would be responsible for this?

It was noted that this is all in relation to the construction of the Lincs Reservoir (Anglian Water), so the purpose of it being deepened would be to be able to hold more water for pumping into the reservoir. This would also benefit the Board as there would be more holding capacity within the SFFD in times of heavy rainfall. Currently, there is a summer and winter level, if it was to be deepened there may be the potential to have one level, which may allow the Board to gravitate more so require less pumping.

Cllr D Middleton noted that the Board stopped pumping into the SFFD in the event earlier in the month? The Chief Executive confirmed this (as per the Board's Emergency Response Plan).

(d) Planning & Enforcement Officer Vacancy - Minute 2364(f)

It was noted that the job specification has been amended to make it more a primarily administrative role and more applications have been received (third time of advertisement). The Projects Director is to shortlist for interview.

The previous Chief Executive, Ian Warsap, has been approached to see if he would be willing to work on a consultancy basis doing this role while the recruitment process is still ongoing to try and keep up to date with this workload. This would be charged to the Development account and so wouldn't impact on the Board's finances. Mr M Rollinson felt this was a good idea. The Projects Director noted how difficult it would have been to complete this work on a 'normal' year, let alone with all the additional work created by the IDB Recovery Fund.

(e) 2024/25 Plant Budget - Minute 2367(b)

It was noted that the new DXB 8" pump was delivered and used immediately at Dunsby, where the training was carried out.

The pump worked well, and the operatives seem happy with it. There is another 8" and 6" DXB pump on order.

Further funding was also requested for a ramp to be able to use in conjunction with the pumps for laying pipes across roads. This funding has been approved and so the ramp is currently being sourced.

The new trailer is also on order from Bailey trailers and is due to be approved by the VOSA, using the Board's Unimog.

(f) Felling of trees - Aswarby Estates - Minute 2367(c)

The Chief Executive noted that this matter is with the insurers who will deal with the matter directly on behalf of the Board. The committee were reminded of the situation, that happened in 2022, whereby some Board operatives felled the wrong trees that were too big for their certification (was dealt with under the disciplinary procedure at the time). Aswarby Estates are trying to claim for the loss of the wood as they are arguing that the way in which they were chopped down means it can only be used for firewood as opposed to milling.

Mr R Needham questioned the value of the wood? It was confirmed that Aswarby Estates submitted an invoice for £6,000.

(g) Mobile Phone Contract Renewal - Minute 2368

The Chief Executive noted that the Vodafone signal is not as good as EE but was a lot less money.

2416 Period 08 Management Accounts - Agenda Item 8

The Chief Executive presented the Period 08 management accounts, highlighting the following points:

- Rechargeable income is down due to less rechargeable work being completed due to focusing on the IDB Recovery Fund works.

Mr C Wray questioned what rechargeable work is? It was explained that it is mostly Public Sector Cooperation Agreement (PSCA) work for the Environment Agency (EA) but can also include ad hoc work for landowners etc. A further example was given of the cutter suction desilting work completed on the SFFD. It also includes the work completed on behalf of South Kesteven District Council (SKDC). Mr R Needham questioned if this work has been completed by others? The Chief Executive noted the issues experienced with SKDC not wanting to agree the work through a PSCA and so it was issued on a contract basis for one year and to be done through the PSCA going forwards. It was confirmed that the work has not been completed by another organisation and so not causing the Board to have to compete for the work because of this.

The Chief Executive noted that most of the Board's PSCA work is summer cutting, the Board completed two cuts last year, the EA originally asked the Board to price for three cuts and have now asked the Board to price for four cuts. Peter Reilly (EA Operations Manager) has been completing a grass sward study which has shown that by keeping the grass cut and maintained, it stabilises the bank more.

The Projects Director added that it also usually includes ad hoc work for the EA such as slip repairs and bank repairs, but the Board have not had capacity to complete anything extra this year due to the amount of work needing to be completed for the IDB Recovery Funding.

- Solar income - The work required at Chain Bridge Pumping Station is still outstanding, the inverter needs replacing (was installed with the panels in 2014), which has been priced at £1,700. This is using a Skegness based Electricians; Hallgate Lincs Ltd, a couple of the committee members recommended a local Electrician; Smiths Electrical. Mr M Rollinson noted that he has been informed that an inverter only really has a life span of 10 years.
- Electricity – The Chief Executive noted the surplus for electricity, noting that this will now change due to the rainfall event earlier in the month. From 01 January 2025 – 19 January 2025, the estimated electricity for the pumping stations is £75,150.
- The value of both investments has started to improve.

#### 2417 2025/26 Budget & Ten-Year Estimates - Agenda Item 9

The Chief Executive presented the 2025/26 budget and ten-year estimates as follows.

##### Rates & Levies

It is suggested that the penny rate be set at 19.59p in the £, which is an increase for 2025/26 of 3.98%. This includes using a 3.5% inflation figure (November CPIH).

Attention was drawn to the amount of land developed within the Board's area that has been transferred from agricultural to Special Levy (134 acres). Particular attention was drawn to the increase in the North Kesteven District Council (NKDC) area, which is subject to an increase of £39,319.47. Officers have been liaising with NKDC officers to confirm the change is correct and so they are not surprised by the increase. This is due to a solar farm that has been classified as commercial and has therefore had to be transferred to Special Levy. A lot of solar farms opt to remain as dual use (agricultural and commercial) meaning they pay both drainage rates and business rates.

Mr M Rollinson noted that if more solar farms are put up in the area, then it may affect the constitution of the Board (i.e., number of agricultural members versus appointed members). However, it was noted that, within the Land Drainage Act, there can only be one more appointed member than Elected (agricultural) members.

Cllr D Middleton questioned whether such industrial developments need to have some sort of special payment associated with them if not paying drainage rates? The Chief Executive clarified that the Board still receive payment for them through the councils paying the Special Levy (which is more income than it would be at an agricultural drainage rate value). The problem for the special levy paying councils is that they do not keep the business rates collected from such sites but still have to find the money to pay the IDBs. The Chief Executive noted that there is a Special Interest Group in Westminster to try and find a solution for this, but nothing has been proposed yet.

## Interest and Investment Income

The Chief Executive noted that one of the Board's investments came up for renewal during the recent heavy rainfall event (Vernon Building Society). It was at 5.2% for six months, they offered terms of 4.67% for six months and so it has been renewed at this rate (with approval from the Chairperson).

Interest rates of the Board's accounts were highlighted:

- Reserve account (£2.2million) at 1.51%
- 35 Day Notice Account (£2.5million) at 2.75%
- Loughborough Building Society (£200,000) at 5%
- Vernon Building Society (£200,000) at 4.67%

If these balances were maintained, it would generate an interest income of £121,000, however these balances won't be maintained as it includes the IDB Recovery Fund money to be spent this financial year.

## Grants & Local Levy

The Chief Executive referenced the figure within the report (£7,589,267) and that because of the recent news of achieving more funding this figure has now increased to £13,834,267. A new 10-year schemes budget has been produced and circulated to the committee (discussed below).

## 10 Year Schemes Budget

The Projects Director noted the below new revised FCRM GiA Capital Schemes indicative allocation, highlighted in red on the Schemes budget for 2025/26 (totalling c£6.3million). Business cases are still to be produced and submitted.

Great Hale Fen PS New Transformer	£55,000 removed from the indicative FDGiA funding
Black Hole Drove PS Structural Repairs	£50,000
Chain Bridge PS Structural Repairs	£1,500,000
Cooks Lock PS Structural Repairs	£50,000
Donington NI PS Structural Repairs	£450,000
Gosberton PS Structural Repairs	£970,000
Great Hale PS Structural Repairs	£1,290,000
Holland Fen PS Structural Repairs	£970,000
Horbling Fen PS Structural Repairs	£50,000
Wyberton Marsh PS Structural Repairs	£970,000

The Projects Director noted that he, and the Grant in Aid Manager, believe that there is still opportunity to be able to move some of this funding to other schemes that did not get allocated anything, i.e. Swineshead Pumping Station. A rough estimation for the replacement of Swineshead Pumping Station is £20-£30million. The first phase of that will be to produce a proposal, specification and tendering pack (c£750,000).

The Projects Director noted that DXB have indicated that they also supply larger pumps for pumping stations and so he has a site meeting booked in with them at the beginning of February to gauge an estimated cost, for Wyberton Chain Bridge Pumping Station.

The Projects Director reminded the committee of how business cases work and the need to maximise the ask, due to not being able to claim anything further for the benefit period, e.g., if the benefit period is 25 years no further funding can be claimed at that site in that time.

The Projects Director also explained to the committee that the previous Grant in Aid (GiA) funding programme was a six-year programme and has been reduced to a five-year programme, with £2.4billion now left to spend in just twelve months. Therefore, some approved schemes may not now be delivered, which may mean there are in year opportunities that could be allocated funding for other schemes, that are prepared and ready to be delivered.

The Projects Director referred to the schemes in the table above and that the pumping station structural repairs have come about from visual inspections completed by himself, the Pump Engineer and the Grant in Aid Manager. The Projects Director referred specifically to Black Hole Drove Pumping Station, noting that the piles visible (intake side) do not look in very good condition and if this is the 'wet dry' zone, where the steel is corroding, the piles will be in similar condition the whole way along the site. Therefore, a structural survey is required to determine this, with the Projects Director of the opinion that it could fail its inspection.

Cllr D Middleton questioned if it could be caused by ground conditions? The Projects Director responded by noting the age of the steel elements of the Board's pumping stations (mid 1960's).

The Projects Director noted some positive news that not all the repairs required are as complicated, which just require the steel to be rubbed down and painted. Mr C Wray noted that some form of chemical needs to be put on the rust, otherwise it will just continue to rust behind the paint.

Reference was next made to the four pumping stations with water seepage issues that did not get any allocated funding (South Kyme, Ewerby Trinity College, Damford). Mr M Rollinson noted there was water seepage at Dowsby Fen this time? The Chief Executive noted it was only a very small crack and not comparative to the other four with issues. Mr M Rollinson noted his concern that it starts as a small crack and becomes progressively worse. The committee looked at the photographs included within the report, noting the size of the hole at Ewerby Pumping Station. Structural Engineers attended Ewerby Pumping Station yesterday and will be providing a report. The Projects Director did note that the Engineer suggested that it may be an option to use ready mixed concrete to fill the hole temporarily to stop it getting worse. This was also suggested as a possibility for Trinity College Pumping Station. For South Kyme Pumping Station, the Engineer has suggested that the best way to seal it is to use polythene with sandbags as a temporary measure. The Projects Director next referred to funding this work; it has been submitted into Tranche 2b of the IDB Recovery Fund (expected feedback 28 February 2025). If it is unsuccessful through this, then the next potential funding source is through Grant in Aid in a year's time or, local levy or getting a loan (last resort). Stantec (Engineers who have designed the specifications for repair works) have provided an estimated cost of £4million for the four sites. Balfour Beatty have quoted £7.5million for the four sites. It has therefore gone out to tender, with the hope being to receive some quotes closer to the £4million estimated.

### Pumping Station Maintenance

The Chief Executive noted the estimated electricity costs calculated for a dry, average and wet year, noting that last year the actual cost was between the average and wet (£735,000). The figure that has been included in the 2025/26 budget is £517,592 (average 2025/26). The figure used to meet the reserve aim of being able to fund two wet years based on estimate cost is £873,907 (wet 2025/26).

### Summer Cutting

Whilst not in the same timescale as usual, the same amount of summer cutting has been completed.

### Winter Drain Maintenance

This work has been deferred to future years, to allow the Board to focus on the IDB Recovery Fund works.

### Bushing

This work has been deferred to future years, to allow the Board to focus on the IDB Recovery Fund works.

### Environmental

The Maintenance Director and Environment Officer have worked together to put together the Environment budget, which was included in the report and this will be presented to the Environment Committee at their next meeting.

### Environment Agency Precept

The RFCC meeting is on Friday, it is expected that it will be frozen, as it has been since 2009.

### Development Reserve

The Chief Executive noted the estimated closing balance at 31 March 2025 of £623,643 and that this is where Ian Warsap's time as a Planning & Byelaw Consultant would be charged to if he was willing to complete some of this work.

### 10 Year Plant Replacement

The Chairperson questioned if there is a need to replace the Hitachi if it is reliable and the operative likes it? The Projects Director noted that it is the unknown of how much it could end up costing if a machine is kept too long and so felt it was worth exploring trading it in at least. Mr C Wray noted that you can't always keep pushing it back otherwise other new machinery will be required at the same time.

### Equipment and Building Maintenance

The Chief Executive noted that he has got a quote for 4 EV Charging points on the front of the building (£7,148), which could hopefully be offset by 4 x £350 grants. Further noting £1,455 for a power analyser for the office to try and better understand and analyse the electricity bill and use of electricity generated by the solar panels. (c£1,000per month).

Mr M Leggott suggested that EV Chargers be installed into pumping stations when having other works completed through funding. The Projects Director noted that this would, at least, be considered within the business case. The Chief Executive noted the possibility of charging the public to be able to use them and that, eventually, the workforce will probably be provided with an EV in the future. Mr C Wray noted that a lot of people walk their dogs along the banks and may be interested in being able to charge their car while doing so.

### Wages oncost

The Chief Executive noted the increase to Employer's National Insurance contributions from the next financial year, however, noted the current healthy balance produced from the extra overtime being completed for the IDB Recovery Fund works.

### Solar Panels

The Chief Executive noted that Swineshead Pumping Station, the depot and Holland Fen PS solar panels have now broken even (without savings from electricity used). The length of time for each set to break even ranges from 6.94 years to 15.3 years (Great Hale – assumed due to orientation of the pumping station in relation to the sun).

### General Reserve

The Chief Executive confirmed that the Board's three targets are being met by the current proposal:

Maintain - Maintain the General Reserve at between three and twelve months of net revenue expenditure. (As per JPAG Practitioners Guide).	The General Reserve maintains a level between 25% and 100% over the entire 10 year period.
Aim - Aim to be able to fund a minimum of two consecutive "Wet" years of Electricity from the General Reserve.	£873,907 is the calculated "Wet" year figure using the October 2024 tariff for electricity equating to a reserve aim of £1,828,128
Budget - With the General Reserve at the target level aim for a balanced budget.	With the current rate profile, a balanced budget will be achieved in the sixth year and then increases in line with inflation will maintain this trend.

The following documents were noted in conjunction with the above:

- *2024/25 Budget & 10 Year Estimates*  
The Chief Executive noted that he doesn't usually include 'Actuals' for previous years in this but added them in for the benefit of Boston Borough Council and thought it was beneficial to keep it to show how it has built up over time. The committee noted the transparency of it.
- *10 Year Capital Schemes*
- *2025/26 Summary budget by month*
- *2025/26 Detailed budget by month*
- *10 Year Plant Replacement Budget*
- *2024/25 Cumulative Solar Panel Report*
- *Electricity analysis October 2024*

The committee RESOLVED to recommend this to the Board for approval.

### 2418 Review Bourne Fen Farm Rate Alleviation - Agenda Item 10

The Chief Executive reminded the committee that they are the Trustees of the Bourne North Fen Farm account , explaining that the farm was gifted to the people of Bourne North Fen and the income from the farm was split between the people of Bourne North Fen to alleviate their drainage rates.

The alleviation rate has been at 2.4p in the £ and is able to be maintained at this for the next year.

Mr M Leggott noted the administration fee seemed high in comparison to the cash balance. It was confirmed that the investment balance is £338,844 (not the cash balance C/F of £12,452). Mr M Leggott noted this and that that is more in line.

Due to the cash balance in reserve, all AGREED to maintain the rate alleviation at 2.4p in the £ for 2025/26.

2419 CONFIDENTIAL - Review of HR Policies - Agenda Item 11

It was agreed and thereby RESOLVED to exclude the public from the next part of the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, in accordance with section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

2420 Any Other Business - Agenda Item 12

(a) Heavy Rainfall Event - January 2025

The Chief Executive referred the committee to the documents circulated:

- Executive summary
- Report
- Incident Log (only one copy circulated – better in electronic format which can be circulated as includes lots of photos and videos).

The Chief Executive suggested that these documents be circulated with local councils etc. and Richard Tice MP. It was also suggested to be included in the Board agenda.

The Chief Executive reported that he had spoken to a retired engineer from another local board who was consulted following the December 2013 floods and he reported that when the Environment Agency (EA) drained the salt water out of the gearboxes and engines at Black Sluice Pumping Station (Boston) , the oil coated all of the engines and gearboxes as it did so, and so he is of the opinion that it would only take a couple of days / weeks to get the pumps working again and even offered some engineers to do it.

The Chief Executive noted that when the Board investigated the possibility of taking responsibility of the Black Sluice Pumping Station during the decommissioning process in 2018, the concept of installing two electric pumps was explored. This would have required a new power supply, which would have been too cost prohibitive and so a diesel generator would have needed to be installed to run the electric pumps. The Board wanted to keep the pumping station running but there was no funding with the pumping station to allow the Board to be able to do that.

The Chief Executive questioned to what extent the EA had already made the decision to decommission the pumping station and then provided the reasoning to support that. It being confirmed that the only organisation who had the power to make the decision about it was the EA.

The two TV news broadcasts were noted, with the Chief Executive noting that a lot of the explanation that he had given had been cut and edited, whereas the live radio interview was more detailed and gave the full picture. Further noting that the EA Area Director, has expressed he is not pleased with the TV interviews and disappointed in the lack of partnership in his view.

Cllr D Middleton noted his opinion that he doesn't see what purpose the EA serve; noting their inability to purchase, deliver, project manage etc.

Mr M Rollinson noted that there was not a huge amount of rainfall received, going into quite a dry system, so what caused it to flood so quickly?

The Chief Executive referenced the broken sluice door at the Black Sluice complex and that rain came unexpectedly overnight but could not discharge as the only way of opening the sluice door was manually (nobody on site overnight to manually operate) and so four hours of discharge time was lost. Therefore, the starting point was higher, combined with the rainfall and snow melt and a quicker run off rate due to frozen ground. Mr M Rollinson suggested there may be a case of negligence against the EA from the flooded homeowners because of the sluice door not being opened. Cllr D Middleton questioned how long the sluice door had been broken? The Chief Executive explained that the Board were informed of it on 18<sup>th</sup> December 2024, but had been broken around a week by this point (Board were only informed due to rainfall expected).

Mr M Rollinson noted Helpringham Fen and that it has occurred in the same place again. Mr R Needham noted the overtopping at the top of the Helpringham Eau in 2012, the local farmer had a pump on a ledge which was overtopped with water. The last three times when water has overtopped, it has not come above the pump. Mr R Needham noted one of the issues being the bushes preventing the water from moving through. Mr R Needham also noted a new housing development in Sleaford (still being developed), has a discharge of 1.41litres per second per hectare, which is not actually a great amount of water. Mr R Needham questioned if there is any way that rate can be checked? Mr R Needham also noted that there should have been five attenuation ponds and only one has been built. The Chief Executive noted that there is no way of physically checking the volume of water discharging, noting that it would be a matter for the council if they have not constructed the number of attenuation ponds agreed and breached their planning approval (North Kesteven District Council Board representative was noted – Cllr A Hagues). The Chief Executive further noted that the concept of Schedule 3 of the Floods and Water Management Act 2010 was that all developments would have to attenuate down to green field rates. This is not currently in place in England (it is in Wales), the previous government were trying to progress it, however, any developments since 2012 haven't had to work to this condition. It also means that anything built from 2012 onwards doesn't count towards benefits to attract funding.

Mr M Rollinson also noted that the Board also have no idea of the impact of the Highland Carriers.

The Projects Director added that he doesn't believe that the impact of the Board's Emergency Response Plan has been taken into consideration by the modelling carried out by the EA. It being confirmed that very minimal pumping was done for 48 hours during this event.

Mr M Rollinson noted that in discussion with Mr M Sly, he believes the Board need to do everything to either get it re-commissioned or purchase.

The Chief Executive noted that he has spoken with Ms K Samms (EA), Morgan Wray (EA), Amy Shaw (Fens 2100+), Norman Robinson (Fens 2100+), Alan Lovell (EA Chairperson) about this so has tried to escalate it as much as possible.

Mr M Rollinson noted his concern that the system responded quicker, with less rainfall and this is going to become more frequent with the effects of global warming. The Projects Director noted the catchment study being completed and that climate change is a factor considered on this.

Mr M Rollinson noted that he is in the Board Officer's WhatsApp group and so can see all the effort and time put in by Board employees, thanking them for this.

The Projects Director noted the catchment study being completed and that climate change is a factor considered on this. It has already been outlined that Swineshead Pumping Station could potentially have 10% increase in pumping capacity, but if there is no way of increasing the capacity of the SFFD then what is the point in increased pumping capacity. It was noted that if the SFFD is widened / deepened through the Lincs Reservoir this would increase capacity.

The Chairperson questioned how many times the record level of the SFFD has been exceeded since the EA's modelling was completed? It was confirmed four times. Cllr D Middleton noted that an independent inquiry has been completed on some EA modelling done for Horncastle and has shown that the figures used were not accurate or correct. The Chief Executive noted that Innes Thomson (ADA Chief Executive) used to work for the EA in the Hull area where there was some modelling done for a barrier in that area. The council didn't agree with it and wanted the EA to check the modelling. When the modelling was checked it was found that the EA consultant had based the modelling on perfectly smooth banks of watercourses with no allowance for any drag friction. With the re-done modelling it proved a different outcome and that there was a need for the barrier to be built. The Chief Executive outlined his point that 40 properties have been flooded in Boston directly from the SFFD because it was tide-locked, and the water couldn't discharge; so therefore, the modelling needs reviewing based on this.

Reference was made to Richard Tice (MP), it being noted that the Board's Officers have had a meeting with him, and providing him with as much information as possible, including the Incident Report and Executive Summary presented today. Gareth Davies (MP) has also been in touch requesting any information that may be helpful to him.

Mr M Leggott noted that the EA Skerth Drain at Billingham (outside Board area) was overtopping in the early morning hours, where the EA invested a lot of money into building the bank up.

The Projects Director noted that he has only today been informed of overtopping at Swaton, which the Board were not aware of, outlining the importance of notifying us, Lincs County Council and the EA Flood Line. It can also be reported on Fix My Street.

(b) Ignoring of Road Closures

Mr M Leggott noted that he was speaking to one of the Board's 360 Excavator operatives completing works on the North Forty Foot Drain (NFFD) banks recently, where there was a road closure in place. However, Mr M Leggott noted that there were multiple cars that ignored or moved the road closure signs and came through. The excavator operator noted his concern for a potential collision.

It was noted that access must be allowed to residents and the Maintenance Director is aware of it.

Mr M Leggott noted other road closure cases where Lincolnshire Police have put CCTV in operation. Mr C Wray noted that the best deterrent is cameras. The Chief Executive concluded that the Board's Officer's will look at options to secure the work site (possible Heras fencing) or camera options.

(c) Realignment of Towns Drain (Quadrant development)

Cllr P Bedford questioned if there is any progress on this matter? The Projects Director noted that Chestnut Homes (developer) was notified of the three options as directed by the Board and no response has been received. Cllr P Bedford noted his concern about how close the development is getting to the drain.

(d) Hare courser's vehicle in South Forty Foot Drain

Cllr P Bedford noted that he saw on the news that a hare courser's vehicle ended up in the South Fort Foot Drain (SFFD) earlier this week? It was noted that it was in a feeder drain.

(e) Culvert work

Mr M Leggott noted that an under-road culvert has been blocked off at Cheetham's Lane and wondered why. The Projects Director noted that he is not involved with day-to-day operations and so Mr M Leggott to discuss with the Maintenance Director.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 16:03.

## **BLACK SLUICE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD**

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - 04 JUNE 2025**

#### **AGENDA ITEM 07**

##### **Brewin Dolphin Portfolios**

### **Historical Overview of the Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board and Bourne Fen Farm**

#### **Origins and Early Responsibilities (1293–1766)**

- In 1293, an inquisition determined that maintenance of the Bourne Eau and Glen Banks was the responsibility of various townships, including Bourne, Pinchbeck, and Surfleet.
- Over the next few centuries, multiple Commissioners of Sewers were appointed to oversee drainage matters.
- In 1664, an Act granted certain Adventurers the right to drain Deeping Fen, with an obligation to maintain the Glen Bank between Guthram Gowt and Dovehirne.
- The Black Sluice Act of 1765 allowed liability commutations through agreed annual payments (£18 for Deeping Fen and £34.5.5 for Bourne).
- In 1766, the Bourne North Fen Inclosure Commissioners retained 340 acres for infrastructure, creating Bourne Fen Farm (218 acres), managed under trusteeship.

#### **Legislative Framework and Financial Adjustments (1846–1915)**

- The Black Sluice Drainage Act of 1846 authorised the Commissioners to sell Bourne Fen Farm to redeem the annual maintenance charge of £34.5.5.
- In 1915, the farm was sold for £976.16.2, with proceeds invested in War Stock. Interest from these funds replaced direct maintenance contributions for the banks.

#### **Evolving Responsibilities and Financial Disputes (1930–1944)**

- The Land Drainage Act of 1930 restructured drainage authorities, making the Welland Catchment Board responsible for the north banks' maintenance.
- A 1932 agreement designated the Black Sluice Commissioners as maintenance agents, but the Welland Board later withheld payments, leading to financial uncertainty.
- In 1935, the Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board was formally constituted, inheriting assets and farm revenue allocation.
- By 1944, unresolved liabilities regarding bank breaches and delayed financial contributions from the Welland and Deeping Fen Boards required settlement.

#### **The Board's Current Role as Trustees and Drainage Rate Alleviation**

- The Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board continues to act as trustees of the fund, ensuring its proper management and allocation.
- The proceeds from the initial sale of Bourne Fen Farm have been invested, now generating approximately £14,000 annually.
- This income is used to offset drainage rates for the landowners in Bourne North Fen, in line with historical directives.

# Bourne Fen Farm Trust Fund

## Revenue Account for Year Ended 31st March 2025

<i>Income</i>	2025	2024
	£	£
Investment Income	14,342	14,216
 <i>Expenditure</i>		
Contribution to Rates	9,151	9,245
Bank Charges	4	4
Contribution to Administration	4,479	4,356
	13,634	13,605
<b>Surplus</b>	<b>708</b>	<b>611</b>

## Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2025

<i>Capital Assets</i>	<i>Note</i>	2025	2024
Investments	A	329,895	331,568
 <i>Current Assets</i>			
Bank Account		17,645	16,780
Debtors		565	722
		18,210	17,502
 <i>Current Assets</i>			
Creditors			
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<b>348,105</b>	<b>349,070</b>
 <i>Fund Balances &amp; Reserves</i>			
Revaluation Reserve		230,832	232,505
Capital Fund		104,120	104,120
Revenue Reserve		13,153	12,445
		348,105	349,070
<b>Reserves</b>		<b>348,105</b>	<b>349,070</b>

The above represents a trust fund which was vested in the Black Sluice IDB to fund rate alleviations to the rate payers in the area of Bourne North Fen.

# Bourne Fen Farm Trust Fund

Valuation By Brewin Dolphin Stockbrokers

## NOTE A

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>% of</b>	<b>% of</b>		
<b>Analysis By Sector</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Value £</b>	<b>Value £</b>
Overseas Equities	<b>44.77</b>	41.69	<b>147,689</b>	138,220
UK Bonds	<b>10.65</b>	12.70	<b>35,135</b>	42,116
Other Investments	<b>7.25</b>	10.08	<b>23,934</b>	33,437
UK Equities	<b>9.89</b>	12.11	<b>32,613</b>	40,165
Overseas Bonds	<b>15.28</b>	13.02	<b>50,405</b>	43,183
Absolute Return	<b>7.62</b>	5.16	<b>25,137</b>	17,096
Property	<b>2.76</b>	3.04	<b>9,114</b>	10,075
Cash	<b>1.78</b>	2.20	<b>5,868</b>	7,276
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>100.00</b>	100.00	<b>329,895</b>	<b>331,568</b>

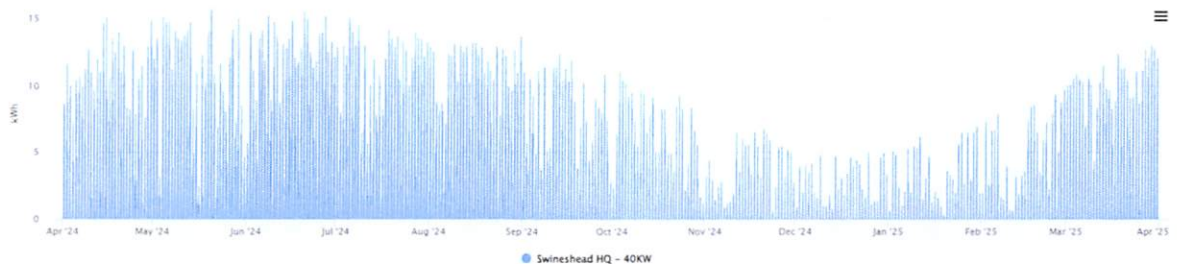
**BLACK SLUICE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD**  
**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - 04 JUNE 2025**  
**AGENDA ITEM 09**  
**2024/25 Year End Accounts**

**Income**

- **Rates & Levies** – Special Levies were collected as per the budget. The expected final income from Drainage Rates is slightly below what was expected by £597 due to amendments after the penny rate was calculated and in year.
  - £827.66 (0.05%) remained outstanding at year end
  
- **Interest & Grants** – Overall £1,170,640 more than included in the budget.
  - The total interest generated was £108,392. This is allocated pro rata to the different reserve accounts.
  - The Board's investment though Brewin Dolphin generated an income of £15,407.91, this was reduced by £3,151.81 for investment management fees. This is allocated pro rata to the different reserve accounts.
  - Grant Income in year was £4,660,148. More detail is included in the Schemes report.
  
- **Other Income** – Overall £15,696 more than budget
  - Highland Water contributions are much lower than last year due to a correction from the previous year as we managed to make a claim for electricity costs from the IDB recovery fund. £3,591.52 compared to £17,072.27 in 2023/24.
  - Miscellaneous Income includes
    - £15,483.25 Anglian Water – Staff Costs in relation to Lincs Reservoir
    - £ 7,201.23 Rent Income
    - £ 5,250.00 Consent Applications
    - £ 2,023.30 Scrap Metal
    - £ 4,699.40 Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust (Bourne Fen Project)
    - £ 1,500.00 Administration of Bourne North Fen Investments
    - £ 1,500.00 LCC MOU Extended Area Work
  
- **Recoverable Income** is £226,737 less than budget, this has not been an area we have been able to focus on in 2024/25 due to prioritisation being on delivering the work related to the IDB Recovery Fund.
  
- **Solar Panel Income** is £5,821 than budget, £2,700 attributed to problems at Chain Bridge and Wyberton, that are now resolved, and £2,350 to the largest installation at the office and depot just generating less than expected (24% less than budget).

01 Apr 2024 00:30 to 01 Apr 2025 00:00

Data Channel: Electricity Import (kW) Relative Area Description Stack?  
Serial No: 10059777 Low Reading: 321881.44 High Reading: 357711.090



- **Overall** – Income is £953,182 more than was included in the budget.

**Expenditure**

- **Schemes** – Due to the number of schemes and the complexity a separate report has been included in relation to schemes, including the IDB Recovery Fund.

- **Pumping Station Maintenance** – Pumping Station Maintenance is £82,541 favourable in the year. Some of the more routine maintenance has been picked up within the IDB recovery fund as more extensive work was required.
- **Electricity** – The accounts show we have only spent £7,468 on electricity in the year but this includes an adjustment for the £452,936 IDB Fund recovery monies received to offset the additional electricity costs from the 2023/24 Winter storms. The electricity cost in the Financial year was therefore, actually, £460,404 compared to a budget, for an average rainfall year of £540,306. This returns £532,838 to the general reserve.
- **Drain Maintenance** –
  - Summer Cutting – The full summer cutting programme, with the exception of some limited lengths, was delivered albeit within an extended timeframe.
  - Drain Desilting – Some desilting was completed early in the year before the IDB Recovery Fund slips were prioritised.
  - Bushing – Very little bushing was undertaken during the year due to IDB Recovery Fund slips being prioritised
  - Culvert Surveying – The initial surveys still need to be completed but this was not possible in 2024/25 due to the lack of resources and prioritisation
  - Jetting – No routine jetting was completed in 2024/25 as this is completed alongside Drain Desilting.

The £276,193 has been returned to the General Reserve to fund future Drain Maintenance, which will require a concerted effort to catch up on works not completed in 2024/25.

- **Environmental** – 2024/25 has been a transitional year in terms of our environmental expenditure. The new Environment Officer is embedding well and making headway on influencing all employees. The original budget was overspent by £13,067 but the agreed amended budget was underspent by £529.49. This is the first time in at least 16 years this budget has been fully utilised.
- **Administration and Establishment**
  - Admin Salaries ended the year £25,345 favourable due to the Planning and Enforcement Officer position being vacant for 8 months of the year.
  - Other Admin & Establishment costs were overspent by £7,875 (1.08%)
  - The Admin % to Income is 8.80%
- **EA Precept** is as expected in the budget and agreed by the RFCC
- **Rechargeable Expenditure** – The rechargeable profit generated is £18,680 which is 6.90% of the Rechargeable income.
- **Solar Expenses** are slightly higher than budget, £529, with extensive work having been carried out on Wyberton and Chain Bridge installations.

### **Balance Sheet**

- The **Plant Reserve** has generated a surplus in year of £237,145 compared to a budget surplus of £226,013. The balance at year end is £189,573.
- The **Development Reserve** balance at year end is £665,584 increasing by £76,328 in the year. The Operations team continue to consider work that could be funded by this reserve to fund the improvement to our system to accommodate new developments. We have also invested funds in getting us back on track with the Planning and Enforcement role.

- Despite spending an additional £70,980 from the **Wages Oncost Reserve** in the year the value of the reserve has increased by another £53,747 to £181,770. I recommend we reduce the recharge rate from 260% to 250% and monitor this closely.
- The **General Reserve** shows a surplus of £2,391,586 in the year which results in the reserve being £3,813,828. The original balance included in the budget was £984,200, following an expected deficit of £438,042.

### **Summary**

The general reserve is showing a very healthy balance and the situation is much improved to what was expected partly due to the additional costs from the 2023/24 storms being reimbursed from the IDB Recovery Fund and partly due to schemes that are ongoing, but we have already received part of the funding for.

Surplus in year to General Reserve	<b>£2,391,586</b>
Scheme funding carried forward to 2025/26	<b>(£1,153,765)</b>
Actual Surplus	<b>£1,237,821</b>

### **Explanations**

Allan House Scheme (Only 50% claimed so far)	<b>(£505,742)</b>
2023/24 Electricity Costs reimbursed	<b>(£452,936)</b>
2024/25 Drain Maintenance deferred	<b>(£276,193)</b>
2024/25 Board funded schemes to IDB Fund	<b>(£170,000)</b>
2023/24 Emergency working reimbursed	<b>(£98,662)</b>
2024/25 Pumping Station Maintenance Underspend	<b>(£82,541)</b>
2024/25 Electricity underspend	<b>(£79,902)</b>
Jetting Major Pipelines not completed	<b>(£74,930)</b>
Schemes Removed awaiting Catchment Study results	<b>(£30,000)</b>
Admin & Establishment Underspend	<b>(£17,470)</b>
Planned Environment Overspend	£13,067
2023/24 North Forty Foot Revetments Grant B/F	£36,286
2023/24 Sempringham PS Scheme Grant B/F	£57,217
Budget Surplus/Deficit	<b>(£443,985)</b>
	<b>(£438,042)</b>

# Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board

## Project Summary

### 2024/25

Period 12 - March 2025

Description	Period Current Year			Year To Date					Last Year	
	Actual	Budget	Variance	Actual	Budget	Variance	Forecast	Variance	Actual YTD	Variance to Current Year
Rates & Levies	3,310	2,173	1,137	3,216,348	3,216,945	(597)	3,215,580	768	2,982,915	233,433
Interest & Grants	1,131,623	336,064	795,559	4,733,728	3,563,088	1,170,640	5,344,658	(610,930)	618,696	4,115,032
Development Fund	5,000	5,000	0	5,000	5,000	0	32,819	(27,819)	5,000	0
Other Income	2,696	5,174	(2,478)	42,466	26,770	15,696	50,564	(8,098)	36,836	5,630
Rechargeable Income	36,525	63,559	(27,034)	270,537	497,274	(226,737)	225,768	44,769	420,299	(149,762)
Solar Panel Income	1,689	2,205	(516)	19,654	25,475	(5,821)	21,109	(1,455)	23,050	(3,397)
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,180,842</b>	<b>414,175</b>	<b>766,667</b>	<b>8,287,734</b>	<b>7,334,552</b>	<b>953,182</b>	<b>8,890,498</b>	<b>(602,764)</b>	<b>4,086,797</b>	<b>4,200,937</b>
Schemes	6,703	35,000	28,297	226,469	441,000	214,531	358,322	131,853	514,980	288,511
Pumping Station Schemes	23,089	55,000	31,911	451,587	1,523,000	1,071,413	1,695,495	1,243,908	239,366	(212,221)
IDB Fund Schemes	932,556	0	(932,556)	2,924,654	0	(2,924,654)	3,276,425	351,771	0	(2,924,654)
Pumping Station Maintenance	7,652	31,107	99,976	258,996	341,537	82,541	428,909	162,445	381,288	122,293
Electricity	(878)	75,643	76,521	7,468	540,306	532,838			734,592	727,124
Drain Maintenance	980	51,780	50,800	726,107	1,002,299	276,193	776,972	50,866	850,043	123,937
Environmental Schemes	6,819	960	(5,859)	39,069	26,002	(13,067)	46,483	7,414	15,041	(24,027)
Administration & Establishment	61,815	58,598	(3,217)	729,624	747,094	17,470	724,746	(4,878)	702,219	(27,405)
EA Precept	0	0	0	276,552	276,552	0	276,552	0	276,552	0
Rechargeable Expenditure	34,503	59,125	24,622	251,857	462,582	210,725	213,141	(38,716)	382,186	130,330
Solar Panel Expenses	0	0	0	3,767	3,238	(529)	3,567	(200)	543	(3,224)
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>1,073,239</b>	<b>367,213</b>	<b>(629,505)</b>	<b>5,896,148</b>	<b>5,363,610</b>	<b>(532,538)</b>	<b>7,800,612</b>	<b>1,904,464</b>	<b>4,096,811</b>	<b>(1,799,337)</b>
<b>Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>107,603</b>	<b>46,962</b>	<b>60,641</b>	<b>2,391,586</b>	<b>1,970,942</b>	<b>420,644</b>	<b>1,089,886</b>	<b>1,301,700</b>	<b>(10,014)</b>	<b>2,401,600</b>
<b>Movement on reserves</b>										
Plant Reserve	338,627	0	(338,627)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pump Engineer Oncost	3,028	0	(3,028)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wages oncost Reserve	133,706	0	(133,706)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grants Manager	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>(367,758)</b>	<b>46,962</b>	<b>536,003</b>	<b>2,391,586</b>	<b>1,970,942</b>	<b>420,644</b>	<b>1,089,886</b>	<b>1,301,700</b>	<b>(10,014)</b>	<b>2,401,600</b>

# Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board Drainage Rates & Special Levies

2024/25

Period 12 - March 2025

## Drainage Rates & Special Levies Due

### Drainage Rates

Annual Drainage Rates - Land and/or buildings	1,559,201.88	
Land/Property - Value Decreased	(36,695.78)	
Land/Property - Value Increased	35,435.38	
New Assessment	396.97	
Write Offs & Irrecoverables		
Adjustments required for Special Levy	(181.81)	
Summons Collection Costs	450.00	
<b>Balance</b>	1,558,606.64	48.46%

### Special Levies

Boston Borough Council	1,232,587.98	
South Holland District Council	232,005.56	
North Kesteven District Council	104,823.70	
South Kesteven District Council	88,324.38	
	1,657,741.62	51.54%

<b>Total Due</b>	<b>3,216,348.26</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
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## Drainage Rates & Special Levies Collected

B/F Arrears/(Allowances)	(3,172.94)	
Payments Posted	1,551,800.50	
Returned Amount		99.95%
Paid Refund		
Bourne North Fen Trust Contribution	9,151.42	
Special Levies Received	1,657,741.62	100.00%
<b>Total Received</b>	<b>3,215,520.60</b>	

## Drainage Rates & Special Levies Debtors

Special Levy Outstanding	0.00	0.00%
Drainage Rates Outstanding	827.66	0.05%
	827.66	
	<b>3,216,348.26</b>	

# Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board

## Income & Expenditure Summary

### 2024/25

Period 12 - March 2025

	This Year	Last Year	Variance
Drainage Rates	1,558,607	1,451,535	107,072
Special Levies	1,657,742	1,531,381	126,361
Recoverable	270,537	420,299	(149,762)
Misc Income	4,782,415	662,109	4,120,305
Solar Panel Income	19,654	23,050	(3,397)
	8,288,953	4,088,374	4,200,579
Employment Costs	1,590,192	1,524,693	(65,498)
Property	548,202	911,320	363,119
General Expenses	301,958	251,731	(50,227)
Materials / Stock	339,448	22,934	(316,513)
Motor & Plant	635,597	354,516	(281,081)
Miscellaneous	2,038,929	779,851	(1,259,078)
Recharges	(336,573)	(364,423)	(27,850)
Plant	779,616	617,766	(161,850)
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>5,897,368</b>	<b>4,098,388</b>	<b>(1,798,980)</b>
<b>Net Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>2,391,586</b>	<b>(10,014)</b>	<b>2,401,599</b>

**Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board**  
**Balance Sheet at Period End**  
**2024/25**  
**Period 12 - March 2025**

	<u>This Year</u>		<u>Last Year</u>	
	£	£	£	£
Operational Land & Buildings Cost	1,009,350		1,009,350	
Pumping Stations Cost	3,861,354		3,861,354	
Non-operational Property Cost	165,000		165,000	
Vehicles, Plant & Machinery Cost	1,309,963		1,205,533	
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	<b>6,345,667</b>		<b>6,241,237</b>	
Stock	87,477		66,469	
Debtors Control	64,733		89,555	
VAT	119,606		74,007	
Drainage Rates Control	828		3,173	
Car Loans	5,336		4,583	
Prepayments	125,395		108,840	
Drawings Bank Account	10,000		10,000	
Call Bank Account	410,000		410,000	
Petty Cash	66		214	
Highland Water	(4,155)		8,782	
Work in Progress	21,584		2,635	
Nat West Government Procurement Card	(2,295)		(360)	
Brewin Dolphin Investment	422,372		413,387	
Natwest Reserve Account	3,722,932		255,474	
Natwest 35 Day Notice Account	1,000,000		1,500,000	
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>5,983,878</b>		<b>2,946,758</b>	
Trade Creditors	(907,544)		(687,360)	
PAYE & NI Control Account	0		0	
Superannuation Contrl Account	0		0	
Accruals	(166,161)		(200,316)	
Suspense	(0)		(0)	
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>(1,073,704)</b>		<b>(887,675)</b>	
Pension Liability	1,471,000		536,000	
	<b>12,726,841</b>		<b>8,836,319</b>	
Capital Reserve	6,345,666		6,241,235	
Pension Reserve	1,471,000		536,000	
Brewin Dolphin Revaluation	(77,628)		(86,613)	
<b>Total Capital</b>	<b>7,739,038</b>		<b>6,690,622</b>	
Revenue Reserve	1,422,243		1,432,256	
Development Reserve	665,584		589,256	
Plant Reserve	189,573		(47,572)	
Wages Oncost Reserve	318,819		181,770	
General Reserve	2,391,586		(10,014)	
<b>Total Reserves</b>	<b>4,987,803</b>		<b>2,145,697</b>	
	<b>12,726,841</b>	0	<b>8,836,319</b>	
<b><u>Cash &amp; Bank Balances</u></b>				
Drawings Account		10,000		
Call Account		10,000	410,000	
Natwest Reserve Account @ 1.51% wef 24/01/25		3,722,932		
Natwest 35 Day Notice Account @ 2.75% wef 24/01/25		1,000,000		
Petty Cash		66		
Chargecard		(2,295)		
Loughborough BS @ 5.00%		200,000	12 Month Fixed Term Deposit	
Vernon BS @ 4.67%		200,000	6 Month Fixed Term Deposit	
		<b>5,140,702</b>		

# Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board Investment Summary 2024/25 Period 12 - March 2025

PORTFOLIO P1684056 VALUATION DATE 9 Apr 2025 ⓘ

📅 31 Mar 2024 - 31 Mar 2025 ▾

## PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

LAST 12 MONTHS PERFORMANCE

**6.26%**



TOTAL VALUE

**422,371.65 GBP**

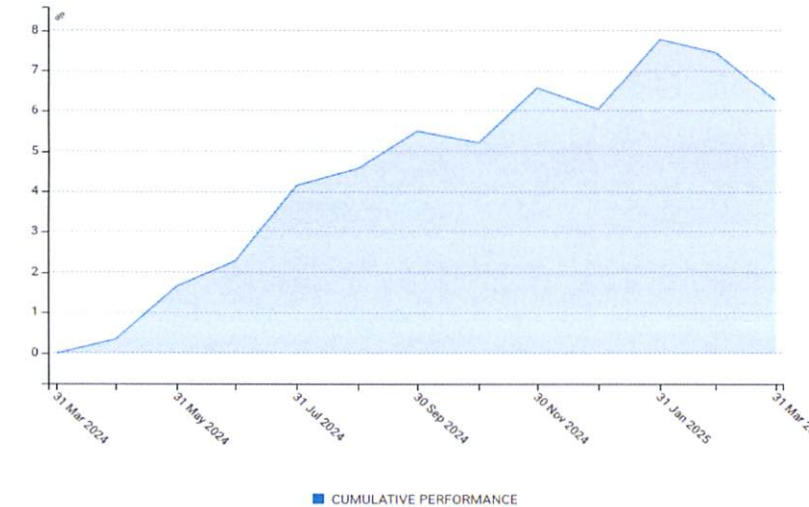
ESTIMATED ANNUAL INCOME

**13,334.94 GBP**

## PERFORMANCE

CUMULATIVE PERIODIC

CHART  
Gross ▾



## PORTFOLIO SUMMARY

BOOK COST

**414,502.25 GBP**

OVERALL GAIN OR LOSS

**1.90%↑**

ESTIMATED ANNUAL INCOME

**13,334.94 GBP**

ESTIMATED YIELD %

**3.16%↑**

# Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board

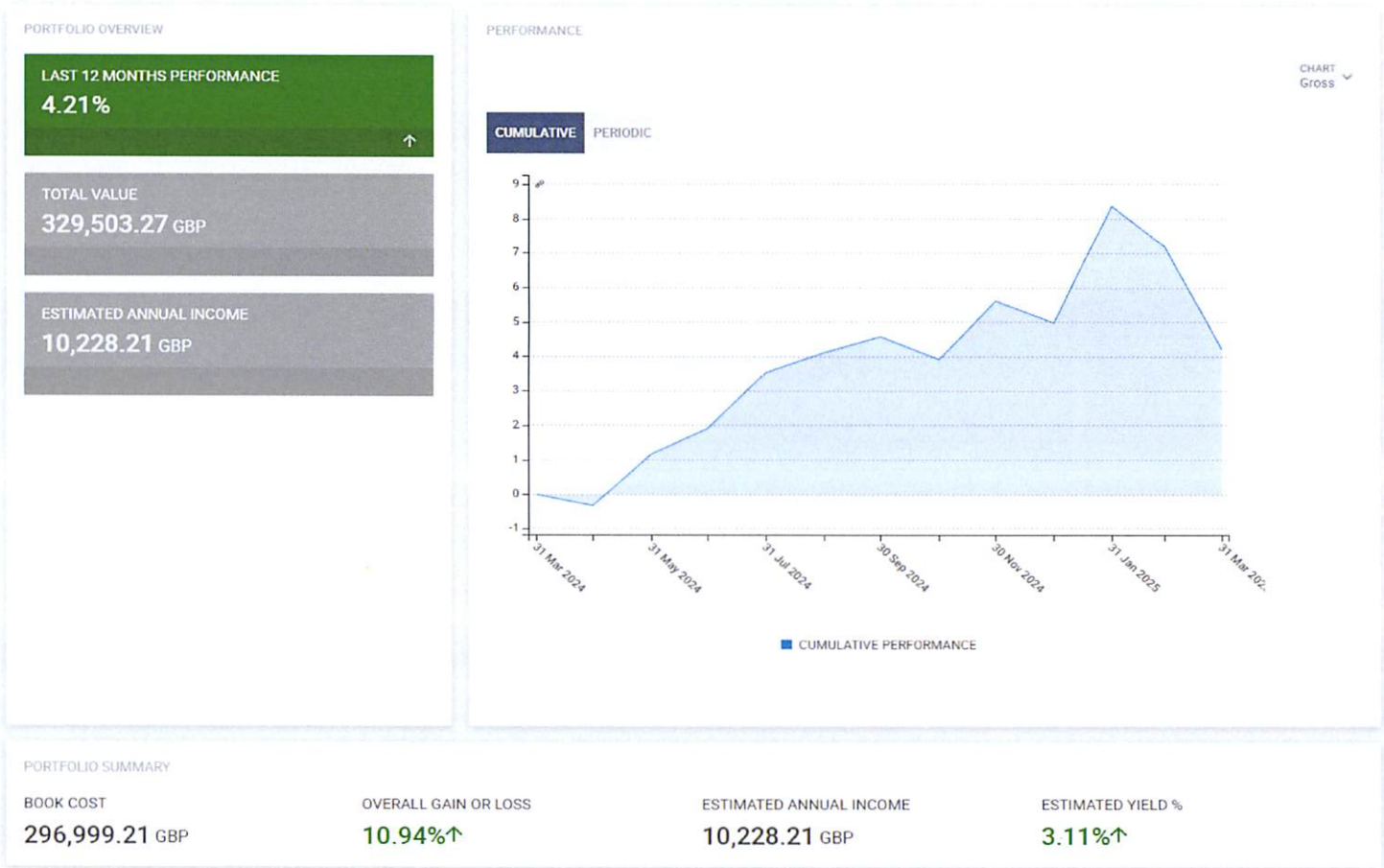
## BFF Investment Summary

### 2024/25

#### Period 12 - March 2025

PORTFOLIO P0000789299 VALUATION DATE 9 Apr 2025

31 Mar 2024 - 31 Mar 2025



**BLACK SLUICE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - 04 JUNE 2025**

**AGENDA ITEM 09(b) - SCHEMES REPORT**

		Allocation/Budget Jan 25 Exec	Received	Spent	C/F	To Claim	C/F
Allan House PS scheme	Grant	£ 1,077,033	£ 571,291	£ 31,987	£ 539,304	£ -	Scheme to upgrade resilience of this station, new MCC and 2 x new submersible pumps. Modifications to PS building to raise height of new MCC, new access door. Excavate and create up to 6 x new manhole chambers to access pump outfall pipe for survey. Extend existing gravity outfall chamber install new pipeline in EA river embankment and non return flap valve into River Haven.  Estimated completion August/September 2025
IDB Recovery Fund - Bank Slips	IDB Fund	£ 705,220	£ 897,220	£ 784,111	£ 113,109	£ -	Original bid for slip repairs was £705,220 but as work commenced on the Summer cutting programme further slips were discovered and we were successful in securing additional funds to a total of £897,220. The total amount spent does not include an estimated 3630 Tonne in soil used from stock at Gosberton, which will require replacing.
IDB Recovery Fund - Electricity	IDB Fund	£ 452,936	£ 452,936	£ 452,936	£ -	£ -	Costs incurred before financial year
IDB Recovery Fund - Ewerby PS Refurbishment	IDB Fund	£ 359,709	£ 314,709	£ 252,189	£ 62,520	£ 45,000	Costs incurred during event = £24,709 Removal, refurbishment & recommissioning of pumps. 2 x New pump motors and VFDs(variable frequency drive), Replacement of MCC Installation of MCC and motor still to be installed, currently stored in BSIDB Depot - 6 month extension granted following technical information issues with agreements with National Grid
IDB Recovery Fund - South Kyme PS Refurbishment	IDB Fund	£ 289,709	£ 249,709	£ 251,279	-£ 1,570	£ 40,000	Costs incurred during event = £24,709 Removal, refurbishment & recommissioning of pumps. 2 x New pump motors and VFDs(variable frequency drive), Replacement of MCC MCC and motors still to be installed, currently stored in BSIDB Depot - 6 month extension granted following technical information issues with agreements with National Grid
Black Sluice Catchment Modelling Study	Grant	£ 244,664	£ 235,000	£ 158,901	£ 76,099	£ -	Study commissioned to provide potential remodelling and rationalisation of Board's pumped catchments The results of the hydrological study and report is now expected to be completed March 2026
IDB Recovery Fund - Mobile Pumps	IDB Fund	£ 235,000	£ 250,000	£ 245,438	£ 4,562	£ -	Original bid was for £235,000, increased by £15,000 to allow the purchase of a pipe ramp. 2 x 8" DXB Pumps on trailers, 1 x 6" DXB Pump on a trailer, 6 x 950L bowsers, 1 pipe ramp, Suction and Delivery pipes and stillages purchased and all have been delivered.  Existing 8" Godwin pump to be modified by DXB to operate correctly. Estimated cost £7,700
Horbling Town Beck Penstock Replacement	IDB Fund	£ 225,000	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	Funding not achieved
IDB Recovery Fund - Helpringham PS Refurbishment	IDB Fund	£ 219,709	£ 184,709	£ 172,096	£ 12,613	£ 35,000	Costs incurred during event = £24,709 Removal, refurbishment & recommissioning of pump. New pump motor and VFD(variable frequency drive), Replacement of MCC Installation of MCC and motor still to be installed, currently stored in BSIDB Depot - 6 month extension granted following technical information issues with agreements with National Grid
IDB Recovery Fund - Pinchbeck PS Refurbishment	IDB Fund	£ 195,000	£ 195,000	£ 120,980	£ 74,020	£ -	Removal, refurbishment & recommissioning of pump. New pump motor and VFD(variable frequency drive), Replacement of MCC Installation of MCC and motor still to be installed, currently stored in BSIDB Depot - 6 month extension granted following technical information issues with National Grid
IDB Recovery Fund - Donington North Ings Access Track	IDB Fund	£ 185,430	£ 185,430	£ 144,116	£ 41,314	£ -	Construct new access road to avoid damaged culvert and level crossing, works completed, except installation of security gates at £2,965.00. Crop loss compensation, existing partially collapsed culvert requires reprofiling, spoil removal from site, Legal expenses.
Black Sluice NFM Works	Grant	£ 170,161	£ 60,304	£ 27,521	£ -	£ -	All planned works completed, no further intention to develop any other schemes.
Peat Restoration Project- Bourne	Grant	£ 163,828	£ 136,132	£ 125,418	£ -	£ -	2 x sites now installed, Bourne Fen(Smiths Drain) and Twenty North Drove(28/10), water level controls to be installed prior to commission
IDB Recovery Fund - Donington Northorpe Culvert Repair	IDB Fund	£ 155,000	£ 125,000	£ 118,075	£ 36,925	£ 30,000	Culvert replacement & relining completed by contractors, 6 weeks extension granted to complete works following initial contractor unable to complete works and change in supplier. Works complete. Total £154,997 spent to 21/05/2025. Some minor compensation payments and waste disposal to pay for.
IDB Recovery Fund - Dunsby Fen PS Refurbishment	IDB Fund	£ 144,709	£ 144,709	£ 150,529	-£ 5,820	£ 102,291	IDB Recovery Fund Allocation increased to £247,000 for Dunsby Fen AWC Replacement. Removal, refurbishment & recommissioning of pump. New pump motor and VFD(variable frequency drive), Replacement of MCC Installation of MCC and motor still to be installed, currently stored in BSIDB Depot - 6 month extension granted following technical information issues with agreements with National Grid

IDB Recovery Fund - Damford PS Refurbishment	IDB Fund	£ 90,000	£ 151,000	£ 124,633	£ 26,367	£ -	IDB Recovery Fund Allocation increased to £155,000 Retrospective Removal, refurbishment & recommissioning of pump & motor including temporary works. New MCC installed
Jetting major Pipelines	Board	£ 75,000	£ -	£ 7,050	£ -	£ -	Work delayed due to contractor underperforming.
Trinity College PS Bank Repair Specification	Grant	£ 66,170	£ 65,000	£ 53,367	£ 12,803	£ -	Specifications complete and contracts awarded, funded by IDB Fund Tranche 2b, to be completed by 31 March 2026
Damford PS Bank Repair Specification	Grant	£ 61,275	£ 60,000	£ 45,400	£ 15,875	£ -	Specifications complete and contracts awarded, funded by IDB Fund Tranche 2, to be completed by 31 March 2026
South Kyme PS Bank Repair Specification	Grant	£ 61,117	£ 60,000	£ 46,121	£ 14,996	£ -	Specifications complete and contracts awarded, funded by IDB Fund Tranche 2b, to be completed by 31 March 2026
Ewerby Fen PS Bank Repair Specification	Grant	£ 61,012	£ 60,000	£ 56,174	£ 4,838	£ -	Specifications complete and contracts awarded, funded by IDB Fund Tranche 2b, to be completed by 31 March 2026
Damford Grounds PS Replace control panel	Board	£ 60,000	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	Retrospective Damford IDB Fund see above
Sempringham PS Refurbishment	Grant	£ 57,217	£ 50,000	£ 145,438	£ 32,562	£ -	Scheme almost complete. £326,282 total spend so far. Scheme estimated at £358,844 with £57,500 contribution from the Board included.
Damford Grounds PS Refurbish 2 x axial flow pumps	Board	£ 50,000	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	Retrospective Damford IDB Fund see above
Wyberton Marsh Transformer	Grant	£ 48,732	£ 130,000	£ 45,449	£ 84,551	£ -	£45,449 spent National Grid supply and installation of LV connection, to be completed removal and disposal of old transformer
North Forty Foot Revetments B/F	Grant	£ 36,286	£ -	£ 6,069	£ -	£ -	Only final Lagoon rent in year
IDB Recovery Fund - Level Controllers	IDB Fund	£ 30,000	£ 80,000	£ 71,303	£ 8,697	£ -	Installation of Water Level controllers - Almost complete?
IDB Recovery Fund - Great Hale PS Refurbishment	IDB Fund	£ 30,000	£ 17,000	£ 11,969	£ -	£ -	Retrospective Refurbishment of pump drive couplings
Donington Wykes PS replace MCC	Board	£ 30,000	£ -	£ 27,954	£ -	£ -	Complete
Great Hale Fen pump drive couplings	Board	£ 30,000	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	Retrospective drive couplings IDB Fund see above
PS Level controllers - various sites	Board	£ 30,000	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	Retrospective Level controllers IDB Fund see above
IDB Recovery Fund - Dyke Fen PS AWC Refurbishment	IDB Fund	£ 25,000	£ 25,000	£ 6,168	£ -	£ -	£18,832 costs incurred in 2023/24 Repairs and relocation of electricity supply to AWC and mobile pumping costs
Hacconby Fen PS under pump inspections	Board	£ 25,000	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	Completed in 2025/26 as part of desilting works.
Kirton Marsh PS under pump inspections	Board	£ 10,002	£ -	£ 10,002	£ -	£ -	Complete
Bicker Fen Catchment Works	Grant	£ 10,000					Removed pending result of whole catchment study
Dunsby Fen Catchment Works	Grant	£ 10,000					Removed pending result of whole catchment study
Ewerby Fen Catchment Works	Grant	£ 10,000					Removed pending result of whole catchment study
Rippingale Fen PS under pump inspections	Board	£ 5,885	£ -	£ 5,885	£ -	£ -	Complete
General Culvert Replacements	Board	£ 5,000	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	No contributions
Great Hale Weedscreen Cleaner B/F	Board	£ 2,578	£ -	£ 2,641	£ -	£ -	Finished off in year
Lower Witham Benefits		£ -	£ -	£ 172	£ -	£ -	Grant Manager time for future scheme
Board Emergency Working Recovered	IDB Fund	£ -	£ -	£ 98,662	£ -	£ -	£123,836 allocated staff costs as above, £25,174 emergency working - January 2025 Event

£ 5,743,382 £ 4,700,148 £ 3,602,709 £ 1,153,765 £ 252,291

# **Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board**

**Unaudited Financial Statements**

For The Year Ended 31st March 2025

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## Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board - Members

Elected Members		Electoral District
Paul Holmes	Chairperson - Board	G
	Chairperson - Executive Committee	
Mark Rollinson	Chairperson - Northern Works	F
	Vice Chairperson - Board	
Mark Leggott	Chairperson - Audit & Risk Committee	A
Robert Needham	Chairperson - Southern Works	B
Chris Wray	Chairperson - Environment Committee	E
William Ash		D
Tom Ashton		G
George Atkinson		D
Victor Barker		C
Mark Mowbray		E
Peter Robinson		B

### Members Appointed by District Councils

Boston Borough Council	
Peter Bedford	
Cllr Anne Dorian	
Neil Drayton	
Cllr Andy Izard	
David Middleton	Chairperson - Structures
Cllr Barry Pierpoint	
Claire Rylott	
David Scoot	
Suzanne Welberry	

South Holland District Council	
Margaret Geaney	

South Kesteven District Council	
Zoe Lane	

North Kesteven District Council	
Andrew Hagues	

Senior Officers	
Mr Daniel Withnall MCGI MloL FMAAT	Chief Executive Officer
Paul Nicholson	Projects Director
Amy Chamberlain MAAT	Finance & Admin Director
Simon Harrison	Maintenance Director

# ANNUAL REPORT

## **Introduction**

The Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board is an independent body created under land drainage statutes responsible for flood risk, land drainage and water level management works, other than on main rivers, in the Black Sluice IDB area. Board Members are either elected by and represent the occupiers of land in the area or are nominated by the District Councils in the Board's area. The Board consists of 11 elected members and 12 nominated members. Further details are on page 4.

The Board secures income mainly from drainage levies on farmers and other occupiers and from special levies on local authorities. The Board also pays levies to the Environment Agency to fund works on main rivers that protect the drainage district.

This document is the statement of accounts of Black Sluice IDB for the financial year ending 31st March 2025, set out on pages 6 to 14. The accounts consist of:

## **The Annual Governance Statement**

The system of internal control is designed to manage the risk to a reasonable level, the IDB's statement details how this is achieved.

## **The Statement of Responsibilities**

This statement identifies the officer who is responsible for the proper administration of the Board's financial affairs.

## **The Statement of Accounting Policies**

This statement details the legislation and source of accounting principles on which the financial statements are prepared.

## **The Income and Expenditure Account**

This statement summarises the resources that have been generated and consumed in providing services and managing the IDB during the last year.

## **The Balance Sheet**

This statement is fundamental to the understanding of the Board's financial position at the year end. It shows the balances and reserves at the Board's disposal and the fixed and net current assets employed in its operation, together with summarised information on the fixed assets held. The statement also includes assets and liabilities of the Board.

## **Notes to the Accounts**

The notes relating to the statements above are detailed after the core statements.

# THE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

We acknowledge as the Members of the Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including arrangements for the preparation of the accounting statements. We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the accounting statements for the year ended 31st March 2025, that:

	Agreed - Yes or No	Yes' means that the board:
1 We have put in place arrangements for effective financial management during the year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements.	Yes	prepared its accounting statements in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations.
2 We maintained an adequate system of internal control, including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.	Yes	made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge.
3 We took all reasonable steps to assure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and proper practices that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of this authority to conduct its business or manage its finances.	Yes	has only done what it has the legal power to do and has complied with proper practices in doing so.
4 We provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.	Yes	during the year gave all persons interested the opportunity to inspect and ask questions about this authority's accounts.
5 We carried out an assessment of the risks facing this authority and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.	Yes	considered and documented the financial and other risks it faces and has dealt with them properly.
6 We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems.	Yes	arranged for a competent person, independent of the financial controls and procedures, to give an objective view on whether internal controls meet the needs of this smaller authority.
7 We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.	Yes	responded to matters brought to its attention by internal and external audit.
8 We considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on this authority and, where appropriate, have included them in the accounting statements.	Yes	disclosed everything it should have about its business activity during the year including events taking place after the year-end if relevant.

This annual governance statement is approved by the body and recorded as minute reference ..... dated 24 June 2025.

Signed on behalf of Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board.

.....  
Paul Homes  
Chairman  
24 June 2025

.....  
Daniel Withnall  
Chief Executive  
24 June 2025

# THE STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

## **The Board is required:**

- a) to make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to secure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. In this Board, that officer is the Chief Executive.
- b) to manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets.

## **The Chief Executive's Responsibilities**

The Chief Executive is responsible for the preparation of the Board's Statement of Accounts which is required to present a true and fair view of the financial position of the Board at the accounting date and its income and expenditure for the year ended 31st March 2025.

In preparing this statement of accounts, the Chief Executive has:-

- a) selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently,
- b) made judgement and estimates that were reasonable and prudent,
- c) compiled the accounts in accordance with UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practices,
- d) applied the accounting concept of a 'going concern' by assuming that the IDB will continue to operate for the foreseeable future.

The Chief Executive has also:-

- a) kept proper accounting records which were up to date;
- b) taken reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## **Certificate of the Chief Executive**

These Financial Statements present a true and fair view of the financial position of the Board at 31 March 2025 and its income and expenditure for the year then ended.

.....  
Daniel Withnall  
24 June 2025

## **Certificate of the Chairman of the Board**

I confirm that these accounts have been approved by the Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board at a meeting held on the 24 June 2025.

.....  
Paul Holmes  
24 June 2025

# STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

## 1. General

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the following accounting concepts:- Accruals, Relevance, Consistency, Reliability, Comparability, Understandability, Materiality and Going Concern.

## 2. Fixed Assets

Fixed assets are recognised as expenditure on acquisition, creation or enhancements with a value in excess of £5,000 and a useful life in excess of one year.

Fixed assets are valued on the following basis:-

- a) Land is included at historic cost.
- b) Operational Buildings are included in the balance sheet at valuation. The Offices and Depot were valued on 31st March 2021 by Mr Robert J Hurst FRICS FAAV, Chartered Surveyor, at market value. It is the Boards intention to value Operational Buildings at an open market value every five years and not depreciate in the intervening years.
- c) Pumping Stations were valued on 31st March 2009 by Mr JW Castley FRICS FAAV, Chartered Surveyor, at open market valuation. It is the Boards intention to retain these values in the accounts as a nominal value and not depreciate in the intervening years.
- d) Non - Operational Property is included in the balance sheet at market value. It was valued on 31st March 2021 by Mr Robert J Hurst FRICS FAAV, Chartered Surveyor, at market value. It is the Boards intention to value non-operational property at an open market value every five years and not depreciate in the intervening years.
- e) Vehicles, Plant & Equipment are included at cost less depreciation.

Disposals are written off at cost less depreciation. Any surplus/deficit arising is charged/credited to the appropriate reserve.

Depreciation has been provided on a straight line basis, on motor vehicles and equipment, excavators and plant, computers, office equipment with a purchase cost in excess of £5,000.

Plant & Vehicles	7 Years
Equipment	4 Years

## 3. Income

Income includes drainage rates on local agricultural land and buildings, special levies on district/borough councils, recharged works, government grants, rental income and interest on investments. Where applicable, this is net of Value Added Tax and is recognised when the Board has a right to receive the income.

## 4. Expenditure

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis.

## 5. Stock & Work in Progress

Stocks and work in progress are stated at the lower of cost or net realisable value.

## 6. Government Grants and Contributions

Government grants and contributions have been credited to the income and expenditure account on an accruals basis. Government grants used for the acquisition of fixed assets have been deducted from the purchase price of the asset.

**7. Provisions**

The Board sets aside provisions where there is a definite liability, but the amount and timing of settlement is not known. Details are given as notes to the accounting statements.

**8. Pensions**

The Board paid an employers contribution of £257,237 on employees pensionable pay into the Lincolnshire County Council pension fund.

**9. Discontinued Operations**

The Board had no material operations which it acquired or which were discontinued in the year and therefore no separate disclosure is required in respect of the Income and Expenditure account and balance sheet accounts.

**10. Internal Interest**

Interest is allocated to the Income and Expenditure Account, Development Fund, Plant Fund and Wages Oncost Fund based on the average level of their balances.

## Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board Income and Expenditure Account For Year Ended 31st March 2025

	Note	2024/25	2023/24
<b>Income</b>		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Grant Income (Including Local Levy)	1	4,660,148	564,016
Special Levies on Councils	2	1,657,742	1,531,381
Drainage Rates		1,558,607	1,451,535
Income from Rechargeable Works		270,537	420,299
Interest		66,075	44,103
Sundry Income	3	54,920	52,520
Investment Income		7,506	10,577
Rental Income		7,201	7,366
Development Reserve Contribution		5,000	5,000
		<b>8,287,736</b>	<b>4,086,797</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Asset Refurbishments	4	3,602,710	754,346
Drain Maintenance		726,107	850,043
Administration Costs		551,674	530,927
Environment Agency Precept		276,552	276,552
Cost of Rechargeable Works		251,857	382,187
Pumping Stations		266,464	1,115,880
Establishment Charges		83,277	71,656
Depot Costs		60,963	72,384
Miscellaneous Charges		37,477	27,795
Environmental Schemes		39,069	15,041
		<b>5,896,150</b>	<b>4,096,811</b>
<b>Surplus / (Deficit)</b>		<b>2,391,586</b>	<b>(10,014)</b>

# Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board

## Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2025

	Note	2024/25	2023/24
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Pumping Stations		3,861,354	3,861,354
Land & Buildings		1,009,350	1,009,350
Vehicles, Plant & Equipment		1,309,964	1,205,533
Non Operational Assets		165,000	165,000
	8	6,345,668	6,241,237
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Stock		87,477	66,469
Debtors & Prepayments	9	333,326	291,572
Investment Valuation		422,372	413,387
Cash at bank & in hand	10	5,140,702	2,175,328
		5,983,877	2,946,756
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Creditors	11	(1,073,704)	(887,675)
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		4,910,173	2,059,081
<b>Liability related to defined pension scheme</b>		1,471,000	536,000
<b>Total Assets less Liabilities</b>		<b>12,726,841</b>	<b>8,836,318</b>
Capital Reserve		6,345,666	6,241,235
Pension Reserve		1,471,000	536,000
Investment Revaluation Reserve		(77,628)	(86,613)
		7,739,038	6,690,622
Revenue Reserve		3,813,828	1,422,242
Development Reserve		665,584	589,256
Plant Reserve		189,573	(47,572)
Wages Oncost Reserve		318,818	181,770
		4,987,803	2,145,696
	12	<b>12,726,841</b>	<b>8,836,318</b>

Mr P Holmes  
Chairman  
24 June 2025

Mr DJ Withnall  
Chief Executive  
24 June 2025

# Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board

## Notes to the Accounts

	2024/25	2023/24
<b>1 Government Grants received from Defra</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
IDB Recovery Fund - Bank Slips	857,219	0
Allan House PS scheme	571,291	200,000
IDB Recovery Fund - Electricity	452,936	0
IDB Recovery Fund - Ewerby PS Refurbishment	314,709	0
IDB Recovery Fund - Mobile Pumps	250,000	0
IDB Recovery Fund - South Kyme PS Refurbishment	249,709	0
Black Sluice Catchment Modelling Study	235,000	100,000
IDB Recovery Fund - Pinchbeck PS Refurbishment	195,000	0
IDB Recovery Fund - Donington North Ings Access Track	185,430	0
IDB Recovery Fund - Helpringham PS Refurbishment	184,709	0
IDB Recovery Fund - Damford PS Refurbishment	151,000	0
IDB Recovery Fund - Dunsby Fen PS Refurbishment	144,709	0
Peat Restoration Project- Bourne	136,132	8,172
Wyberton Marsh Transformer	130,000	0
IDB Recovery Fund - Donington Northorpe Culvert Repair	125,000	0
IDB Recovery Fund - Level Controllers	80,000	0
Trinity College PS Bank Repair Specification	65,000	5,000
Black Sluice NFM Works	60,304	40,000
South Kyme PS Bank Repair Specification	60,000	5,000
Ewerby Fen PS Bank Repair Specification	60,000	5,000
Damford PS Bank Repair Specification	60,000	5,000
Sempringham PS Refurnishment	50,000	100,844
IDB Recovery Fund - Dyke Fen PS AWC Refurbishment	25,000	0
IDB Recovery Fund - Great Hale PS Refurbishment	17,000	0
Gosberton Transformer	0	95,000
	<b>4,660,148</b>	<b>564,016</b>
	<b>4,660,148</b>	<b>564,016</b>
<b>2 Special Levies</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Boston Borough Council	1,232,588	1,139,128
South Holland District Council	232,006	213,986
North Kesteven District Council	104,824	97,416
South Kesteven District Council	88,324	80,851
	<b>1,657,742</b>	<b>1,531,381</b>
	<b>1,657,742</b>	<b>1,531,381</b>
<b>3 Sundry Income</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Sundry Income	35,265	29,470
Solar Income	19,655	23,050
	<b>54,920</b>	<b>52,520</b>
	<b>54,920</b>	<b>52,520</b>

	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>2023/24</b>
<b>4 Asset Refurbishments</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
IDB Recovery Fund Schemes	<b>2,924,654</b>	0
Pumping Station Refurbishments	<b>451,587</b>	239,366
Drain Asset Improvements	<b>3,151,123</b>	514,980
	<b><u>6,527,364</u></b>	<b><u>754,346</u></b>

#### **5 Remuneration**

The table below shows the number of employees whose remuneration was greater than £50,000:

<b>Band £</b>	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>2023/24</b>
50,000 to 59,999	<b>3</b>	1
60,000 to 69,999	<b>1</b>	1
70,000 to 79,999	<b>1</b>	1
100,000 to 109,999	<b>1</b>	1
	<b><u>6</u></b>	<b><u>4</u></b>

#### **6 Audit Fees**

	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>2023/24</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Fees paid to the Board's External Auditor	<b><u>3,360</u></b>	<b><u>2,940</u></b>

#### **7 Related Party Transactions**

Some members of the Board pay Drainage Rates at the prevailing rate.

# Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board

## Notes to the Accounts

### 8 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Land & Operational Buildings £	Pumping Stations £	Non Operational Property £	Vehicles, Plant & Equipment £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>					
Opening Balance	1,009,350	3,861,354	165,000	2,285,597	7,321,301
Additions	0	0	0	340,429	340,429
Disposals	0	0	0	(30,271)	(30,271)
Revaluation	0	0	0	0	0
<b>As at 31st March 2025</b>	<b>1,009,350</b>	<b>3,861,354</b>	<b>165,000</b>	<b>2,595,755</b>	<b>7,631,459</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>					
Opening Balance	0	0	0	(1,080,064)	(1,080,064)
Disposals	0	0	0	6,910	6,910
Charge for year	0	0	0	(212,637)	(212,637)
<b>As at 31st March 2025</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(1,285,791)</b>	<b>(1,285,791)</b>
<b>Net Book Value</b>					
<b>As at 31st March 2024</b>	<b>1,009,350</b>	<b>3,861,354</b>	<b>165,000</b>	<b>1,205,533</b>	<b>6,241,237</b>
<b>As at 31st March 2025</b>	<b>1,009,350</b>	<b>3,861,354</b>	<b>165,000</b>	<b>1,309,964</b>	<b>6,345,668</b>

	2024/25 £	2023/24 £
<b>9 Debtors &amp; Payment in Advance</b>		
Prepayments	125,395	108,840
HM Revenue & Customs (VAT)	119,606	74,007
Trade Debtors	60,577	98,334
Rechargeable Work in Progress	21,584	2,635
Officers Car Loans	5,336	4,583
Drainage Rate Debtors	828	3,173
	<b>333,326</b>	<b>291,572</b>

	2024/25 £	2023/24 £
<b>10 Cash at Bank &amp; in hand</b>		
Bank Deposits	5,140,636	2,175,114
Petty Cash	66	214
	<b>5,140,702</b>	<b>2,175,328</b>

	2024/25 £	2023/24 £
<b>11 Creditors</b>		
Trade Creditors	907,544	687,360
Accruals	166,160	200,315
	<b>1,073,704</b>	<b>887,675</b>

## 12 Reserves

	Balance 31/03/2024	Additions in Year	Withdrawals in year	Balance 31/03/2025
Capital Reserve	6,241,235	317,068	(212,637)	6,345,666
Pension Reserve	536,000	935,000		1,471,000
Investment Revaluation Reserve	(86,613)	8,985	0	(77,628)
Revenue Reserve	1,422,242	2,391,586	0	3,813,828
Development Reserve	589,256	104,318	(27,990)	665,584
Plant Reserve	(47,572)	334,964	(97,819)	189,573
Wages Oncost Reserve	181,770	284,557	(147,509)	318,818
	<b>8,836,318</b>	<b>4,376,478</b>	<b>(485,955)</b>	<b>12,726,841</b>

**Development Reserve-** The Board makes a one off charge to developers to allow an increase in flow into the Board's drainage system. These charges are kept in the Development Fund and used to fund future improvements to the Board's drainage system to accommodate these additional flows.

**Plant Reserve -** The Plant Fund generates income internally throughout the year from all works carried out using the Board's plant. Offset against this income are all the expenses related to the plant and the fund is built up to replace the plant items when required. The depreciation is also charged to this account.

**Wages Oncost Reserve -** The Wages Oncost Fund generates income internally throughout the year from all work using the Board's Labour. Offset against this income are all the expenses related to employing the workforce.

# Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2024/25 Form 3

To be completed by Local Councils, Internal Drainage Boards and other Smaller Authorities\*:

- where the higher of gross income or gross expenditure exceeded £25,000 but did not exceed £6.5 million; or
- where the higher of gross income or gross expenditure was £25,000 or less but that:
  - are unable to certify themselves as exempt (fee payable); or
  - have requested a limited assurance review (fee payable)

## Guidance notes on completing Form 3 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2024/25

1. Every smaller authority in England that either received gross income or incurred gross expenditure exceeding £25,000 **must** complete Form 3 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return at the end of each financial year in accordance with *Proper Practices*.
2. **The Annual Governance and Accountability Return is made up of three parts, pages 3 to 6:**
  - The **Annual Internal Audit Report** must be completed by the authority's internal auditor.
  - **Sections 1 and 2** must be completed and approved by the authority.
  - **Section 3** is completed by the external auditor and will be returned to the authority.
3. The authority **must** approve Section 1, Annual Governance Statement, before approving Section 2, Accounting Statements, and both **must** be approved and published on the authority website/webpage **before 1 July 2025**.
4. An authority with either gross income or gross expenditure exceeding £25,000 or an authority with neither income nor expenditure exceeding £25,000, but which is unable to certify itself as exempt, or is requesting a limited assurance review, **must** return to the external auditor by email or post (not both) **no later than 30 June 2025**. Reminder letters will incur a charge of £40 +VAT:
  - the Annual Governance and Accountability Return Sections 1 and 2, together with
  - a bank reconciliation as at 31 March 2025
  - an explanation of any significant year on year variances in the accounting statements
  - notification of the commencement date of the period for the exercise of public rights
  - Annual Internal Audit Report 2024/25

Unless requested, do not send any additional documents to your external auditor. Your external auditor will ask for any additional documents needed.

Once the external auditor has completed the limited assurance review and is able to give an opinion, the Annual Governance and Accountability **Section 1, Section 2 and Section 3 – External Auditor Report and Certificate** will be returned to the authority by email or post.

## Publication Requirements

Under the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, authorities must publish the following information on the authority website/webpage:

Before 1 July 2025 authorities **must** publish:

- Notice of the period for the exercise of public rights and a declaration that the accounting statements are as yet unaudited;
- **Section 1 - Annual Governance Statement 2024/25**, approved and signed, page 4
- **Section 2 - Accounting Statements 2024/25**, approved and signed, page 5

Not later than 30 September 2025 authorities **must** publish:

- Notice of conclusion of audit
- **Section 3 - External Auditor Report and Certificate**
- **Sections 1 and 2 of AGAR** including any amendments as a result of the limited assurance review. It is recommended as best practice, to avoid any potential confusion by local electors and interested parties, that you also publish the Annual Internal Audit Report, page 3.

The Annual Governance and Accountability Return constitutes the annual return referred to in the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015. Throughout, the words 'external auditor' have the same meaning as the words 'local auditor' in the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015.

\*for a complete list of bodies that may be smaller authorities refer to schedule 2 to the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

## Guidance notes on completing Form 3 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2024/25

- The authority **must** comply with *Proper Practices* in completing Sections 1 and 2 of this AGAR. *Proper Practices* are found in the *Practitioners' Guide\** which is updated from time to time and contains everything needed to prepare successfully for the financial year-end and the subsequent work by the external auditor.
- Make sure that the AGAR is complete (no highlighted boxes left empty) and is properly signed and dated. Any amendments must be approved by the authority and properly initialled.
- The authority **should** receive and note the Annual Internal Audit Report before approving the Annual Governance Statement and the accounts.
- Use the checklist provided below to review the AGAR for completeness before returning it to the external auditor by email or post (not both) no later than 30 June 2025.
- The Annual Governance Statement (Section 1) must be approved on the same day or before the Accounting Statements (Section 2) and evidenced by the agenda or minute references.
- The Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) must certify the accounts (Section 2) before they are presented to the authority for approval. The authority must in this order; consider, approve and sign the accounts.
- The RFO is required to commence the public rights period as soon as practical after the date of the AGAR approval.
- **You must inform your external auditor about any change of Clerk, Responsible Financial Officer or Chair, and provide relevant authority owned generic email addresses and telephone numbers.**
- Make sure that the copy of the bank reconciliation to be sent to your external auditor with the AGAR covers all the bank accounts. If the authority holds any short-term investments, note their value on the bank reconciliation. The external auditor must be able to agree the bank reconciliation to Box 8 on the accounting statements (**Section 2, page 5**). An explanation **must** be provided of any difference between Box 7 and Box 8. More help on bank reconciliation is available in the *Practitioners' Guide\**.
- Explain fully significant variances in the accounting statements on **page 5**. Do not just send a copy of the detailed accounting records instead of this explanation. The external auditor wants to know that you understand the reasons for all variances. Include complete numerical and narrative analysis to support the full variance.
- If the bank reconciliation is incomplete or variances not **fully** explained then additional costs may be incurred.
- Make sure that the accounting statements add up and that the balance carried forward from the previous year (Box 7 of 2024) equals the balance brought forward in the current year (Box 1 of 2025).
- The Responsible Financial Officer (RFO), on behalf of the authority, **must** set the commencement date for the exercise of public rights of 30 consecutive working days which **must** include the first ten working days of July.
- The authority **must** publish on the authority website/webpage the information required by Regulation 15 (2), Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, including the period for the exercise of public rights and the name and address of the external auditor **before 1 July 2025**.

Completion checklist – 'No' answers mean you may not have met requirements		Yes	No
All sections	Have all highlighted boxes have been completed?		
	Has all additional information requested, including <b>the dates set for the period for the exercise of public rights</b> , been provided for the external auditor?		
Internal Audit Report	Have all highlighted boxes been completed by the internal auditor and explanations provided?		
Section 1	For any statement to which the response is 'no', has an explanation been published?		
Section 2	Has the Responsible Financial Officer signed the accounting statements before presentation to the authority for approval?		
	Has the authority's approval of the accounting statements been confirmed by the signature of the Chair of the approval meeting?		
	Has an explanation of significant variations been published where required?		
	Has the bank reconciliation as at <b>31 March 2025</b> been reconciled to Box 8?		
	Has an explanation of any difference between Box 7 and Box 8 been provided?		
Sections 1 and 2	Trust funds – have all disclosures been made if the authority as a body corporate is a sole managing trustee? <b>NB:</b> do not send trust accounting statements unless requested.		

\**Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities in England – a Practitioners' Guide to Proper Practices*, can be downloaded from [www.nalc.gov.uk](http://www.nalc.gov.uk) or from [www.ada.org.uk](http://www.ada.org.uk)

# Annual Internal Audit Report 2024/25

## Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board

www.blacksluiceidb.gov.uk

During the financial year ended 31 March 2025, this authority's internal auditor acting independently and on the basis of an assessment of risk, carried out a selective assessment of compliance with the relevant procedures and controls in operation and obtained appropriate evidence from the authority.

The internal audit for 2024/25 has been carried out in accordance with this authority's needs and planned coverage. On the basis of the findings in the areas examined, the internal audit conclusions are summarised in this table. Set out below are the objectives of internal control and alongside are the internal audit conclusions on whether, in all significant respects, the control objectives were being achieved throughout the financial year to a standard adequate to meet the needs of this authority.

Internal control objective	Yes	No*	Not covered**
A. Appropriate accounting records have been properly kept throughout the financial year.	✓		
B. This authority complied with its financial regulations, payments were supported by invoices, all expenditure was approved and VAT was appropriately accounted for.	✓		
C. This authority assessed the significant risks to achieving its objectives and reviewed the adequacy of arrangements to manage these.	✓		
D. The precept or rates requirement resulted from an adequate budgetary process, progress against the budget was regularly monitored, and reserves were appropriate.	✓		
E. Expected income was fully received, based on correct prices, properly recorded and promptly banked, and VAT was appropriately accounted for.	✓		
F. Petty cash payments were properly supported by receipts, all petty cash expenditure was approved and VAT appropriately accounted for.	✓		
G. Salaries to employees and allowances to members were paid in accordance with this authority's approvals, and PAYE and NI requirements were properly applied.	✓		
H. Asset and investments registers were complete and accurate and properly maintained.	✓		
I. Periodic bank account reconciliations were properly carried out during the year.	✓		
J. Accounting statements prepared during the year were prepared on the correct accounting basis (receipts and payments or income and expenditure), agreed to the cash book, supported by an adequate audit trail from underlying records and where appropriate debtors and creditors were properly recorded.	✓		
K. If the authority certified itself as exempt from a limited assurance review in 2023/24, it met the exemption criteria and correctly declared itself exempt. <i>(If the authority had a limited assurance review of its 2023/24 AGAR tick "not covered")</i>			✓
L. The authority published the required information on a website/webpage up to date at the time of the internal audit in accordance with the relevant legislation.	✓		
M. In the year covered by this AGAR, the authority correctly provided for a period for the exercise of public rights as required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations <i>(during the 2024-25 AGAR period, were public rights in relation to the 2023-24 AGAR evidenced by a notice on the website and/or authority approved minutes confirming the dates set)</i>	✓		
N. The authority has complied with the publication requirements for 2023/24 AGAR <i>(see AGAR Page 1 Guidance Notes).</i>	✓		
O. <b>(For local councils only)</b> Trust funds (including charitable) – The council met its responsibilities as a trustee.	Yes	No	Not applicable

For any other risk areas identified by this authority adequate controls existed (list any other risk areas on separate sheets if needed).

Date(s) internal audit undertaken

28/01/2025      30/01/2025      31/01/2025

Name of person who carried out the internal audit

Christopher R Harris

Signature of person who carried out the internal audit



Date

22/05/2025

**\*If the response is 'no' please state the implications and action being taken to address any weakness in control identified (add separate sheets if needed).**

**\*\*Note: If the response is 'not covered' please state when the most recent internal audit work was done in this area and when it is next planned, or, if coverage is not required, the annual internal audit report must explain why not (add separate sheets if needed).**

## Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2024/25

We acknowledge as the members of:

### Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board

our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including arrangements for the preparation of the Accounting Statements. We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the Accounting Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025, that:

	Agreed		'Yes' means that this authority:
	Yes	No*	
1. We have put in place arrangements for effective financial management during the year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements.	✓		<i>prepared its accounting statements in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations.</i>
2. We maintained an adequate system of internal control including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.	✓		<i>made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge.</i>
3. We took all reasonable steps to assure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and Proper Practices that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of this authority to conduct its business or manage its finances.	✓		<i>has only done what it has the legal power to do and has complied with Proper Practices in doing so.</i>
4. We provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.	✓		<i>during the year gave all persons interested the opportunity to inspect and ask questions about this authority's accounts.</i>
5. We carried out an assessment of the risks facing this authority and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.	✓		<i>considered and documented the financial and other risks it faces and dealt with them properly.</i>
6. We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems.	✓		<i>arranged for a competent person, independent of the financial controls and procedures, to give an objective view on whether internal controls meet the needs of this smaller authority.</i>
7. We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.	✓		<i>responded to matters brought to its attention by internal and external audit.</i>
8. We considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on this authority and, where appropriate, have included them in the accounting statements.	✓		<i>disclosed everything it should have about its business activity during the year including events taking place after the year end if relevant.</i>
9. (For local councils only) Trust funds including charitable. In our capacity as the sole managing trustee we discharged our accountability responsibilities for the fund(s)/assets, including financial reporting and, if required, independent examination or audit.	Yes	No	N/A
			✓

\*Please provide explanations to the external auditor on a separate sheet for each 'No' response and describe how the authority will address the weaknesses identified. These sheets must be published with the Annual Governance Statement.

This Annual Governance Statement was approved at a meeting of the authority on:

24/06/2025

and recorded as minute reference:

MINUTE REFERENCE

Signed by the Chair and Clerk of the meeting where approval was given:

Chair

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

Clerk

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

www.blacksluiceidb.gov.uk

PUBLICLY AVAILABLE WEBSITE/WEPAGE ADDRESS

## Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2024/25 for

### Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board

	Year ending		Notes and guidance
	31 March 2024 £	31 March 2025 £	
1. Balances brought forward	1,741,746	1,645,695	Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year as recorded in the financial records. Value must agree to Box 7 of previous year.
2. (+) Precept or Rates and Levies	2,982,916	3,216,349	Total amount of precept (or for IDBs rates and levies) received or receivable in the year. Exclude any grants received.
3. (+) Total other receipts	1,103,881	5,071,387	Total income or receipts as recorded in the cashbook less the precept or rates/levies received (line 2). Include any grants received.
4. (-) Staff costs	1,446,300	1,508,007	Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include gross salaries and wages, employers NI contributions, employers pension contributions, gratuities and severance payments.
5. (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	0	0	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the authority's borrowings (if any).
6. (-) All other payments	2,736,548	3,937,623	Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cashbook less staff costs (line 4) and loan interest/capital repayments (line 5).
7. (=) Balances carried forward	1,645,695	4,487,801	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. Must equal (1+2+3) - (4+5+6).
8. Total value of cash and short term investments	2,175,328	5,140,702	The sum of all current and deposit bank accounts, cash holdings and short term investments held as at 31 March – To agree with bank reconciliation.
9. Total fixed assets plus long term investments and assets	6,741,237	6,845,668	The value of all the property the authority owns – it is made up of all its fixed assets and long term investments as at 31 March.
10. Total borrowings	0	0	The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).

For Local Councils Only	Yes	No	N/A	
11a. Disclosure note re Trust funds (including charitable)				The Council, as a body corporate, acts as sole trustee and is responsible for managing Trust funds or assets.
11b. Disclosure note re Trust funds (including charitable)			✓	The figures in the accounting statements above exclude any Trust transactions.

I certify that for the year ended 31 March 2025 the Accounting Statements in this Annual Governance and Accountability Return have been prepared on either a receipts and payments or income and expenditure basis following the guidance in Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities – a Practitioners' Guide to Proper Practices and present fairly the financial position of this authority.

Signed by Responsible Financial Officer before being presented to the authority for approval

 SIGNATURE REQUIRED

Date 20/05/2025

I confirm that these Accounting Statements were approved by this authority on this date:

24/06/2025

as recorded in minute reference:

MINUTE REFERENCE

Signed by Chair of the meeting where the Accounting Statements were approved

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

## Section 3 – External Auditor’s Report and Certificate 2024/25

In respect of

Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board

### 1 Respective responsibilities of the auditor and the authority

Our responsibility as auditors to complete a **limited assurance review** is set out by the National Audit Office (NAO). A limited assurance review is **not a full statutory audit**, it does not constitute an audit carried out in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK & Ireland) and hence it **does not** provide the same level of assurance that such an audit would. The UK Government has determined that a lower level of assurance than that provided by a full statutory audit is appropriate for those local public bodies with the lowest levels of spending.

Under a limited assurance review, the auditor is responsible for reviewing Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return in accordance with NAO Auditor Guidance Note 02 (AGN 02) as issued by the NAO on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General. AGN 02 is available from the NAO website – <https://www.nao.org.uk/code-audit-practice/guidance-and-information-for-auditors/>.

This authority is responsible for ensuring that its financial management is adequate and effective and that it has a sound system of internal control. The authority prepares an Annual Governance and Accountability Return in accordance with *Proper Practices* which:

- summarises the accounting records for the year ended 31 March 2025; and
- confirms and provides assurance on those matters that are relevant to our duties and responsibilities as external auditors.

### 2 External auditor’s limited assurance opinion 2024/25

(Except for the matters reported below)\* on the basis of our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, in our opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met. (\*delete as appropriate).

(continue on a separate sheet if required)

Other matters not affecting our opinion which we draw to the attention of the authority:

(continue on a separate sheet if required)

### 3 External auditor certificate 2024/25

We certify/do not certify\* that we have completed our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, and discharged our responsibilities under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, for the year ended 31 March 2025.

\*We do not certify completion because:

External Auditor Name

ENTER NAME OF EXTERNAL AUDITOR

External Auditor Signature

SIGNATURE REQUIRED

Date

DD/MM/YYYY



# **Internal Audit 2024/25**

## **FINAL Audit Report**

Prepared by:

**Chris Harris** - Associate Principal Auditor  
Lighthouse UK Consultancy Limited

For: **Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board**

Report Control:

**Audit Manager**

Steve Forsyth

**Lead Auditor**

Chris Harris

**Report Status**

Draft Report Issued – 6 February 2025

Final Report Issued – 7 February 2025

**Draft Report Distribution**

Amy Chamberlain-Hanger

Daniel Withnall

**Final Report Distribution**

Amy Chamberlain- Hanger

Daniel Withnall

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# 1 Executive Summary

## 1.1 Scope and Background of Audit

1.1.1 Internal Drainage Boards are required annually to have an independent internal audit of their governance, risk and control framework. In addition, the Annual Governance and Accountability Return requires at and Annual Internal Audit report that prescribes some 14 Objectives for the internal auditor to test and comment upon.

The 2024/25 audit of the IDBs accounts and records will review and test sufficient areas of operation to enable the auditor to sign off the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for Internal Audit.

## 1.2 Summary of Audit Findings

1.2.1 The auditor is pleased to record that following his detailed internal audit the governance, risk and control framework at Black Sluice IDB is in good order and working well.

The General Reserves are set within range of 3 to 12 months of net expenditure. The Chief Executive explained why this wide range had been agreed upon by the Board which was acceptable to the Auditor.

## 1.3 Summary of Control Assurance Provided

1.3.1 **Substantial** - Internal Audit is able to offer substantial assurance overall as the areas reviewed were found to be adequately controlled. Internal controls were in place and operating effectively and risks against the achievement of objectives were well managed.

## 1.4 Summary of Recommendations

High	Medium	Low	Total
0	0	0	0

## **2 Audit Findings & Recommendations**

### **2.1 Governance**

- 2.1.1 From the various policies listed on the Black Sluice IDB's website, a sample was examined and found to be in date and in order.
- 2.1.2 Board papers for the meetings held on the 6 February 2024, 11 June 2024 and 19 November 2024 were reviewed along with the Audit and Risk Committee papers for the 30 April 2024 meeting. These were all in order with a reasonable attendance of Board Members at each meeting.
- 2.1.3 The Board published the required information for 2023/24 on its website at the time of the internal audit in accordance with the relevant legislation.
- 2.1.4 In the year covered by this AGAR, the Board correctly provided for a period for the exercise of public rights as required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations.
- 2.1.5 The Board has complied with the publication requirements for 2023/24 AGAR.
- 2.1.6 External Auditor's Review — A notice of the conclusion of the external auditor's limited assurance review of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return dated 11 September 2024, together with relevant accompanying information, was published (including on the Board's website) in accordance with the requirements of Regulation 16 the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015

### **2.2 Risk**

- 2.2.1 The Board manages Risk very effectively and has an Audit and Risk Committee that, at each meeting, reviews each risk in detail. In addition, there is an up to date Risk Management Strategy and a risk report goes to each Board meeting.

### **2.3 Financial (Internal Control Framework)**

#### **2.3.1 Conformation of Accounting Records:**

The Responsible Financial Officer has in place procedures to record all financial transactions and a proper system of financial controls. In addition, the RFO has up to date accounting records.

#### **2.3.2 Accounts Payable (Creditors):**

Two large payments to Ovivo UK Ltd (two invoices) and Ireland's Farm Machinery Ltd (nine invoices) were selected for a detailed review. These were found to be in order. In addition, the credit card statements for November 2024 were reviewed to confirm expenditure related to a drainage board. All items were found to be appropriate and suitable for a drainage board.

### 2.3.3 Budgetary Process including penny rate and precepts:

The Board approved the penny rate (Sub District 1 – 9.42p in the £ and Sub District 2 – 18.84p in the £) for 2024/25 at its meeting held on the 6 February 2024. In addition, the special levies for the four councils (Boston BC, South Holland DC, North and South Kesteven DCs) were all approved.

The rating process is in order and is a well established procedure. This leads through to sending out invoices and debt collection culminating in going to court to get a court order to collect. Unpaid rating invoices are only a small percentage of the overall debt collected.

A budget is set annually and is approved by the Board. Regular financial reports are provided to the Board at each of their meetings

### 2.3.4 Reserves:

Financial Regulations require Reserves to be between 3 and 12 months of net expenditure. This does seem quite a broad band as other Boards seem to set their General Reserve level at around 30% of net expenditure.

The Chief Executive explained the reason for this flexibility:

- *Maintain* - Maintain the General Reserve at between three and twelve months of net revenue expenditure. (As per JPAG Practitioners Guide);
- *Aim* - Aim to be able to fund a minimum of two consecutive "Wet" years of Electricity from the General Reserve;
- *Budget* - With the General Reserve at the target level aim for a balanced budget.

The reserve objectives were agreed at the Executive Committee meeting on 13 December 2022 following through to being adopted by the Board on 14 February 2023.

The projected reserve position as at end of 2024/25 is 23.67% and this fluctuates over the ten-year forecast between 20.27% and 35.83% by 2033/34.

In light of the discussion and approval by the Board the range of General Reserves between three and twelve months of net revenue expenditure is noted.

### 2.3.5 10 Year Forecast:

A ten year forecast is in place which forms part of the budget information presented to each Board meeting. Once past 2023/24 the ten year forecast shows a modest annual rate increase of approximately 5% pa from 2027/28 with 7% and 6% rises prior to this year.

2.3.6 Accounts Receivable (Debtors):

Aged debtors were examined and the auditor was informed that each month there is a reminder sent out, the first one is sent with a statement, the second with an overdue watermark and by the third month either an "immediate action required" watermarked invoice with a statement is sent. There was only one aged debt beyond month three.

2.3.7 Petty Cash:

Petty cash had been reconciled as at 10 December 2024 with a balance of cash in hand at £99.37. Petty cash was in order with receipts identifying VAT and receipts obtained for all petty cash items reviewed.

2.3.8 Salaries:

Salaries for the month of December 2024 were reviewed. These were in order and the correct sums had been paid over to HMRC for tax and NI and to Lincolnshire County Council for pensions.

2.3.9 Asset Register:

A detailed Asset Register is maintained, and this was up to date and in order.

2.3.10 Bank Reconciliation:

Bank reconciliations for the four bank accounts:

NatWest 35 day notice account;  
NatWest Call account;  
Drawings account; and  
Reserve account

were reviewed and all found to be in order and reconciled.

**Disclaimer**

The matters raised in this report are only those that came to the attention of the auditor during the course of the internal audit review and are not necessarily a comprehensive statement of all the weaknesses that exist or all the improvements that might be made. This report has been prepared solely for management's use and must not be recited or referred to in whole or in part to third parties without our prior written consent. No responsibility to any third party is accepted as the report has not been prepared, and is not intended, for any other purpose. Lighthouse UK Consultancy Limited neither owes nor accepts any duty of care to any other party who may receive this report and specifically disclaims any liability for loss, damage or expense of whatsoever nature, which is caused by their reliance on our report.

**Draft Action Plan**

Ref.	Finding	Implication	Risk level	Recommendation	Management Comments
1. No recommendations have been identified for the 2024/25 Internal Audit					
					<p>Responsible officer:</p> <p>Implementation date:</p>

**10 Year Schemes Budget  
2025/26 to 2034/35**

Year	Scheme	Total	Grant / Local Levy	Other Contributions	Possible Board Contribution	Board Funded Schemes
	B/F Allan House PS Scheme	£539,304	£539,304			
	B/F IDB Recovery Fund - Bank Slips	£113,109		£113,109		
	B/F IDB Recovery Fund - Ewerby PS Refurbishment	£107,520		£107,520		
	B/F IDB Recovery Fund - South Kyme PS Refurbishment	£39,430		£39,430		
	B/F Black Sluice Catchment Modelling Study	£78,099	£78,099			
	B/F IDB Recovery Fund - Mobile Pumps	£4,562		£4,562		
	B/F IDB Recovery Fund - Helpingham PS Refurbishment	£47,813		£47,813		
	B/F IDB Recovery Fund - Pinchbeck PS Refurbishment	£74,020		£74,020		
	B/F IDB Recovery Fund - Donington North Ings Access Track	£41,314		£41,314		
	B/F IDB Recovery Fund - Donington Northorpe Culvert Repair	£98,925		£98,925		
	B/F IDB Recovery Fund - Dunsby Fen PS Refurbishment	£96,471		£96,471		
	B/F IDB Recovery Fund - Damford PS Refurbishment	£26,367		£26,367		
	B/F Trinity College PS Bank Repair Specification	£12,803		£12,803		
	B/F Damford PS Bank Repair Specification	£15,875		£15,875		
	B/F South Kyme PS Bank Repair Specification	£14,996		£14,996		
	B/F Ewerby Fen PS Bank Repair Specification	£4,838		£4,838		
	B/F Sempingham PS Refurbishment	£32,562		£32,562		
	B/F Wyberton Marsh Transformer	£94,551		£94,551		
	B/F IDB Recovery Fund - Level Controllers	£8,697		£8,697		
	SFFD Desilting Outhrum to Blackhole Drove PS	£105,000				£105,000
	Black Hole Drove p/s under pump inspections	£35,000				£35,000
	Bicker Fen PS replace MCC	£50,000				£50,000
	Kirton Marsh PS replace MCC	£50,000				£50,000
	Kirton Marsh PS replace syphon valve	£5,000				£5,000
	Horbling Fen PS 1 x pump motor refurbishment	£4,000				£4,000
	Holland Fen PS 1 x Motor refurbishment	£8,000				£8,000
	Great Hale Fen PS 1 x Motor Refurbishment	£5,000				£5,000
	Cooks Lock PS refurbish weedscreen cleaner & controls	£95,000				£95,000
	Great Hale PS Fen replace MCC	£95,000				£95,000
	Jetting to major pipelines	£40,000				£40,000
	NFF Desilting	£20,000				£20,000
	IDB Recovery Fund - Head Dyke bank repairs(South Kyme PS) works	£451,100		£451,100		
	IDB Recovery Fund - Hodae Dyke bank repairs(Ewerby Fen PS) works	£480,300		£480,300		
	IDB Recovery Fund - Trinity College Bank Repair Works	£923,800		£923,800		
	IDB Recovery Fund - Damford PS Bank Repair Works	£105,346		£105,346		
	Black Hole Drove PS - Structural Repairs	£50,000	£50,000			
	Chain Bridge PS - Structural Repairs	£1,500,000	£1,500,000			
	Cooks Lock PS - Structural Repairs	£50,000	£50,000			
	Donington NI PS - Structural Repairs	£450,000	£450,000			
	Swineshead PS - Structural Repairs	£1,000,000	£1,000,000			
	Great Hale PS - Structural Repairs	£1,290,000	£1,290,000			
	Holland Fen PS - Structural Repairs	£970,000	£970,000			
	Horbling Fen PS - Structural Repairs	£50,000	£50,000			
	Wyberton Marsh PS - Structural Repairs	£970,000	£970,000			
	General culvert replacement contributions	£5,000				£5,000
		£9,901,462	£7,111,628	£2,298,374		£566,000
2025/26	Claydyke desilting	£130,000				£130,000
	NFF Desilting	£90,000				£90,000
	Jetting to major pipelines	£50,000				£50,000
	Horbling Town Beck Flood Alleviation scheme					
	Bicker Fen Catchment works					
	Dunsby Fen Catchment Works					
	Ewerby Fen Catchment Works					
	Dowsby Fen Catchment Works					
	Horbling Fen PS new roof	£18,500				£18,500
	Gosberton Fen PS Refurbish 3 x axial flow pumps	£78,750				£78,750
	Dowsby Fen PS replace MCC	£90,000				£90,000
	South Kyme Fen PS refurbish w/s cleaner & controls	£48,000				£48,000
	Swaton Fen PS replace MCC	£48,000				£48,000
	Rippingle Fen PS replace MCC	£48,000				£48,000
	Donington North Ings PS new transformer	£55,000	£55,000			
	Cooks Lock PS new transformer	£55,000	£55,000			
	Holland Fen PS under pump inspections	£28,000				£28,000
	Donington NI PS - Structural Repairs	£450,000	£450,000			
	Graft Drain	£45,000				£45,000
	General culvert replacement contributions	£5,000				£5,000
		£1,211,400	£640,000			£611,400
2026/27	Graft Drain	£95,000				£95,000
	Jetting to major pipelines	£75,000				£75,000
	Holland Fen PS replace MCC	£90,000				£90,000
	New Hammond Beck Desilting	£75,000				£75,000
	Dowsby Fen Catchment Works	£290,000	£162,696	£137,314	£50,000	
	Kirton Marsh PS new roof	£23,000				£23,000
	Bicker Fen refurbish 1 x axial flow pump	£33,000				£33,000
	Bicker Fen PS replace weedscreen cleaner	£155,000				£155,000
	Wyberton Chain Bridge PS new transformer	£90,000	£60,000			
	Holland Fen PS new transformer	£75,000	£75,000			
	Donington Northings PS refurbish 3 x axial flow pumps	£85,000				£85,000
	Ewerby Fen PS refurbish 2 x axial flow pumps	£58,000				£58,000
	General culvert replacement contributions	£5,000				£5,000
		£1,178,000	£297,696	£137,314	£50,000	£664,600
2027/28	Old Hammond Beck Desilting	£90,000				£90,000
	Jetting to major pipelines	£80,000				£80,000
	Twenty PS refurbish 1 x axial flow pump & motor	£35,000				£35,000
	Bourne Fen 2B10 Retreatment	£30,000				£30,000
	Helpingham PS new roof	£20,000				£20,000
	Wyberton Chain Bridge PS under pump inspection	£25,000				£25,000
	Wyberton Chain Bridge PS refurbish 3 x axial flow pumps	£90,000				£90,000
	Wyberton Chain Bridge PS replace MCC	£72,000				£72,000
	Dowsby Fen PS refurbish 2 x axial flow pumps	£58,000				£58,000
	Swaton Fen PS replace weedscreen cleaner	£160,000				£160,000
	General culvert replacement contributions	£5,000				£5,000
		£666,000				£666,000
2028/29	Jetting to major pipelines	£90,000				£90,000
	Great Hale Fen PS refurbish 3 x axial flow pumps	£95,000				£95,000
	Cooks lock PS pump drain desilting under pump inspection	£56,000				£56,000
	Quadring Fen PS replace MCC	£40,000				£40,000
	Mallard HumPS under pump inspections	£32,000				£32,000
	Damford Grounds PS under pump inspections	£32,000				£32,000
	Helpingham Fen PS under pump inspections	£32,000				£32,000
	Swaton Fen PS under pump inspections	£32,000				£32,000
	Billingborough Fen PS under pump inspections	£32,000				£32,000
	Pinchbeck Fen PS under pump inspections	£32,000				£32,000
	Haconby Fen PS refurbish 1 x axial flow pump	£30,000				£30,000
	Gosberton Fen PS replace MCC	£90,000				£90,000
	Quadring Fen pump drain desilting/under pump inspection	£48,000				£48,000
	General culvert replacement contributions	£5,000				£5,000
		£626,000				£626,000
2029/30	Damford PS pump drain desilting/under pump inspections	£50,000				£50,000
	Jetting to major pipelines	£90,000				£90,000
	Horbling Fen PS replace MCC	£45,000				£45,000
	Mallard Hum PS replace MCC	£45,000				£45,000
	Mallard Hum PS under pump inspections	£10,000				£10,000
	Trinity College PS refurbish 2 x axial flow pumps	£63,000				£63,000
	Ewerby Fen PS under pump inspections	£34,000				£34,000
	South Kyme Fen PS under pump inspections	£34,000				£34,000
	Sempingham Fen PS under pump inspections	£34,000				£34,000
	Black Hole Drove PS refurbish 3 x axial flow pumps	£100,000				£100,000
	Great Hale Fen PS replace MCC	£90,000				£90,000
	Kirton Marsh PS replace MCC	£50,000				£50,000
	General culvert replacement contributions	£5,000				£5,000
		£629,000				£629,000
2030/31	Jetting to major pipelines	£90,000				£90,000
	Hockington Fen pump drain desilting under pump inspections	£50,000				£50,000
	Billingborough Fen p/s replace MCC	£50,000				£50,000
	Dowsby Lode PS replace MCC	£50,000				£50,000
	Pinchbeck Fen PS replace MCC	£50,000				£50,000
	Cooks Lock PS refurbish 3 x axial flow pumps	£105,000				£105,000
	Swaton Fen PS refurbish 1 x axial flow pump	£35,000				£35,000
	Twenty PS replace MCC	£55,000				£55,000
	Dowsby Fen PS drain desilting under pump inspections	£49,000				£49,000
	Dowsby Lode PS under pump inspections	£36,000				£36,000
	Dunsby Fen PS under pump inspections	£36,000				£36,000
	General culvert replacement contributions	£6,000				£6,000
		£612,000				£612,000
2031/32	Jetting to major pipelines	£70,000				£70,000
	Rippingle p/s refurb 1 x axial flow pump	£37,000				£37,000
	Gosberton Fen pump drain desilting/under pump inspections	£56,000				£56,000
	Donington Northings PS desilting under pump inspections	£56,000				£56,000
	Great Hale Fen PS desilting under pump inspections	£56,000				£56,000
	Trinity College PS desilting under pump inspections	£56,000				£56,000
	Holland Fen PS refurbish 3 x axial flow pumps & motors	£118,000				£118,000
	Helpingham Fen PS refurbish 1 x axial flow pump	£38,000				£38,000
	General culvert replacement contributions	£7,000				£7,000
		£694,000				£694,000
2032/33	Great Hale Fen PS desilting/under pump inspections	£55,000				£55,000
	Trinity College PS desilting/under pump inspections	£40,000				£40,000
	Horbling Fen PS desilting/under pump inspections	£35,000				£35,000
	Bicker Fen PS desilting/under pump inspections	£40,000				£40,000
	Jetting to major pipelines	£70,000				£70,000
	Kirton Marsh PS refurbish weedscreen cleaner & controls	£110,000				£110,000
	Swaton Fen PS refurbish 1 x axial flow pump & motor	£45,000				£45,000
	Sempingham Fen PS refurbish weedscreen cleaner & controls	£45,000				£45,000
	Horbling Fen PS refurbish weedscreen cleaner & controls	£90,000				£90,000
	NFF desilting	£90,000				£90,000
	General culvert replacement contributions	£7,000				£7,000
		£697,000				£697,000
2033/34	Kirton Marsh PS desilting & under pump inspections	£90,000				£90,000
	Rippingle Fen PS desilting & under pump inspections	£90,000				£90,000
	Haconby Fen PS desilting & under pump inspections	£90,000				£90,000
	NFF desilting	£100,000				£100,000
	Dowsby Lode PS refurbish 1 x axial flow pump & motor	£75,000				£75,000
	Blackhole Drove PS refurbish weedscreen cleaner & controls	£110,000				£110,000
	Horbling Fen PS refurbish 1 x axial flow pump & motor	£75,000				£75,000
	General culvert replacement contributions	£7,000				£7,000
		£637,000				£637,000

**PLANT REPLACEMENT BUDGETS 2025/26**

Existing Plant/Equipment	Year Purchased	Purchase Price	Hours / Miles		Age to Replace	Replace Year	New Plant	Replace Cost	Est Trade in Target	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34	2034/35	2034/35
			As at 05/05/2025							£189,573	£47,327	£279,186	£155,661	£197,606	£315,189	£473,792	£197,789	£354,790	£219,978	£609,362
Hooby	2023/24	£290,195	1,204	Hours	8	2031/32	???	£ 428,750	£ 107,188	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 321,563	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Twiga SPV2 (2019)	2019/20	£197,150	4,424	Hours	8	2027/28	Twiga/Herder/Hooby?	£ 291,280	£ 72,820	£ -	£ -	£ 218,460	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 322,765
Twiga SPV2 (2017)	2017/18	£205,811	6,341	Hours	8	2025/26	Twiga/Herder/Hooby?	£ 241,000	£ 60,250	£ 180,750	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 267,050	£ -	£ -
Aebi T211	2023/24	£79,875	1,046	Hours	8	2031/32	Aebi & Rear Flail	£ 118,012	£ 29,503	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 88,509	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Unimog	2020/21	£148,000	143,452	Km	9	2029/30	New unimog	£ 229,597	£ 51,021	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 178,575	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Hitachi ZX 210LC-5B	2016/17	£133,845	8,806	Hours	9	2025/26	20T Excavator	£ 207,638	£ 46,142	£ 161,496	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 238,603	£ -	£ -
JCB 130 Telescopic LR	2019/20	£105,350	7,173	Hours	8	2027/28	13T Excavator	£ 155,650	£ 38,912	£ -	£ -	£ 116,737	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 172,474
JCB 145 Standard & LR	2019/20	£129,850	6,510	Hours	9	2028/29	13T Excavator	£ 201,440	£ 44,764	£ -	£ -	£ 156,676	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
JCB 140 Telescopic LR	2022/23	£137,500	1,948	Hours	8	2030/31	14T Excavator	£ 203,150	£ 50,788	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 152,363	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
JCB 150X Excavator	2022/23	£139,605	3,306	Hours	9	2031/32	15T Excavator	£ 216,573	£ 48,127	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 168,446	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
JCB 531 Teleporter	2012/13	£43,470	4,433	Hours	12	2027/28		£ 78,066	£ 13,011	£ -	£ -	£ 65,055	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 116,829
Toyota Hilux (Pump Engineer)	2023/24	£27,985	18,123	Miles	4	2028/29	Pick-Up	£ 34,016	£ 11,339	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 22,677	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 27,564	£ -	£ -	£ -
Toyota Hilux (Works Supervisor)	2023/24	£28,168	28,324	Miles	4	2028/29	Pick-Up	£ 34,238	£ 11,413	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 22,826	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 30,588	£ -	£ -	£ -
Toyota Hilux (Works Manager)	2023/24	£29,143	12,149	Miles	4	2028/29	Pick-Up	£ 35,423	£ 11,808	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 23,616	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 33,230	£ -	£ -	£ -
Toyota Hilux (Pump Maintenance)	2023/24	£28,168	9,276	Miles	4	2028/29	Pick-Up	£ 34,238	£ 11,413	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 22,826	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 33,724	£ -	£ -	£ -
Mitsubishi (Pool Vehicle)	2019/20	£20,431	60,960	Miles	?	?	Pick-Up	?	?	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Mitsubishi (Fitter)	2019/20	£20,000	56,678	Miles	6	2026/27	Pick-Up	£ 28,768	£ 4,795	£ -	£ 23,973	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 33,733	£ -	£ -
Ford Transit Tipper	2022/23	£30,271	28,437	Miles	7	2031/32	Tipper	£ 29,000	£ 5,000	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 24,000	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Dump Trailer 1	2006	£13,832			18	2024/25	Dump Trailer	£ 37,500	£ 1,000	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Low Loader Trailer	2020/21	£27,000			15	2036/37	Low Loader	£ 56,131	£ 7,484	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Tipping Trailer	2022/23	£6,895			25	2047/48		£ 23,349	£ 1,868	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
4m Trailer	2022/23	£4,500			25	2047/48		£ 15,239	£ 1,219	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
100mm Self priming Pump					16	2039/40		£ 22,000		£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Vibrating piling hammer	2015/16				20	2035/36				£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Steel/Timber Pile hammer								£ 23,100		£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
150mm Portable Pump	2006	£16,050			16	2039/40		£ 30,000		£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Compressor	2008	£4,950								£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Ride on Lawnmower	2016/17				8	2032/33		£ 30,000	£ 3,000	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 27,000	£ -	£ -	£ -
Fuel Tanks x 2						2024/25				£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
8" Mobile Pump	2021/22	£52,566			20	2041/42		£ 139,473		£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Nifty Lift	2007/08	£18,500					Tracked aerial platform CMC S15F	£ 56,000	£ 5,000	£ 51,000	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Welfare Unit	2024/2025	£21,500						£ 22,249		£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -
Weedbaskets										£ -	£ 7,718	£ -	£ -	£ 8,934	£ 9,381	£ 9,850	£ 10,342	£ -	£ -	£ -
Net Spend from Plant Reserve Generated										£393,246	£31,691	£400,253	£248,620	£187,509	£161,743	£612,367	£196,181	£505,653		£612,069
Balance C/F										£47,327	£279,186	£155,661	£197,606	£315,189	£473,792	£197,789	£354,790	£219,978	£609,362	£406,145

**BLACK SLUICE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - 04 JUNE 2025**

**AGENDA ITEM 11(b)**

**Replacement Plant**

**Flailing Machine**

**Option 1 – Energreen Alpha SPV - £241,100.00 inc. 1.5m Herder flailmower  
Quotation received 26/03/25**

A quotation for the next generation self-propelled machine from Energreen, the Alpha which replaces the existing machines operated by the Board, has been received from Ireland's Farm Machinery.

The Alpha is a slightly larger machine with a bigger cab, with proposed more consistent specification using John Deere engines. The 3 machines we currently operate are all different specifications using different engines 2 with Deutz and 1 with John Deere. It is worth noting, there have been issues with operation of these machines, problems with hydraulics, electrics, engine, tyres, gearbox which have in the past usually resulted in extended periods of downtime, and expensive repairs.

**Option 2 – Hooby MH115 - £296,866.00 + 1.5m Herder flailmower c£16,000.00**

Quotation for the same specification machine as the one we currently have.

Machine drive train, engine etc JCB Hydradig. Except for the cab everything above this is Hooby built and specified.

The machine we currently have has had only minor issues, which have been related to the JCB elements of the machine mainly(handbrake seal repaired same day) and the 1 or 2 faults requiring repair from Hooby(electrical fault and seat fault machine repaired 1 day) have all been completed without the machine losing productivity.

**Option 3 – Herder One - £383,000.00 + 1.5m Herder flailmower c£16,000.00**

I had the opportunity to view this machine at a demonstration several years ago and am aware that there is now a machine in the UK at another IDB. Herder equipment has a reputation for quality.

## Access platform

CMC S18F tracked access platform – £50,620.00

Challenger 50 plant trailer/split adjustable ramps - £4,570.00

Quotation received 13/12/24

To include the following:

- Working height: 18m
- Maximum outreach : 11.2m
- Honda iGX390 petrol engine (Other engines available)
- Radio controlled tracking and auto levelling
- Height and width adjustable tracks
- Black rubber tracks
- Two man basket with quick release system and wheels
- 200 bar / air water hose in basket
- 110v electrical socket to basket
- 110v aux electric motor
- Cylinder outrigger covers
- Remote diagnostics peak system computer adapter

I have not provided any other options for the replacement of the existing Nifty Lift120T. Working Height 12.2m Max outreach 6.1m

The existing 2008 Nifty lift machine, when on site, is difficult to manoeuvre into position, although it has motor movers on the wheels, it does not move effectively if not on a flat hard surface.

Having looked at the options available the CMC machine is the only machine of its type that meets requirements needed for access on site.

Mounted on tracks it is more versatile and therefore enable siting on the weedscreen deck as it is expected that it can travel down/up the weedscreen deck access ramps. It is not particular the additional height that is always required but the outreach that this machine offers which enables the proximity to the working area when the base of the machine cannot always be sited in the ideal position due to specific site conditions. It also weighs 2495 kg which enables transport on a trailer behind one of the 4x4 pick ups, in the same way that the existing Nifty lift 120T is transported to site.

I have been to look at this machine earlier this year.



### **360 Excavator**

Option 1 - Hitachi ZX210-7 15m super long front - £199,500

Quotation received 21/05/25

Awaiting an updated trade in valuation.

Option 2 - JCB 220x long reach 15m - £159,750.00

Quotation received 01/06/24

Trade in valuation £30,000.00

Awaiting an updated quotation and trade in valuation.

**BLACK SLUICE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD**  
**2024/25 Budget and 10 Year Estimates**

**Executive Committee - March 2025 (After 2024/25 Yearend)**

Income	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	ACTUAL	Budget / Estimates									
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34	2034/35
Rates and Levies	2,094,287	2,143,773	2,204,498	2,325,594	2,982,916	3,216,946	3,216,348	3,398,676	3,533,998	3,674,526	3,821,992	3,955,580	4,094,372	4,238,369	4,387,571	4,541,977	4,701,588
Interest & Investment Income	22,992	16,247	11,833	17,357	54,680	99,087	73,581	60,000	62,100	64,274	66,523	68,851	71,261	73,755	76,337	79,009	81,774
Grants/Local Levy	405,864	316,986	293,500	70,000	564,016	5,672,140	4,660,148	8,242,637	560,000	435,000							
Contribution Development Fund	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Other Income	24,308	58,526	37,224	185,928	36,836	26,765	42,466	24,401	25,255	26,139	27,054	28,001	28,981	29,995	31,045	32,131	33,256
Rechargeable Income	507,653	368,040	822,534	683,313	420,299	441,314	270,537	400,000	414,000	428,490	443,487	459,009	475,075	491,702	508,912	526,724	545,159
Solar Panel Income	16,605	17,121	16,466	21,411	23,050	25,473	19,654	24,416	25,271	26,155	27,070	28,018	28,999	30,013	31,064	32,151	33,277
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>3,076,709</b>	<b>2,925,693</b>	<b>3,391,055</b>	<b>3,308,603</b>	<b>4,086,797</b>	<b>9,486,725</b>	<b>8,287,734</b>	<b>12,155,130</b>	<b>4,625,624</b>	<b>4,659,583</b>	<b>4,391,127</b>	<b>4,544,459</b>	<b>4,703,687</b>	<b>4,868,835</b>	<b>5,039,928</b>	<b>5,216,992</b>	<b>5,400,054</b>
Expenditure	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	ACTUAL	Budget / Estimates									
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34	2034/35
Board Funded Schemes	415,118	302,926	122,298	200,011	278,338	500,000	36,006	505,000	661,250	694,000	655,000	626,000	612,000	494,000	597,000	637,000	
FDGIA/Local Levy Funded Schemes	45,406	141,222	475,024	68,073	476,009	6,077,495	642,050	7,111,028	560,000	435,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
IDB Recovery Fund Schemes							2,924,653	2,285,374									
Pumping Station Maintenance	243,650	277,891	230,367	197,746	285,396	247,537	159,380	264,433	273,688	283,267	293,182	303,443	314,063	325,056	336,433	348,208	360,395
Pumping Station Electricity Standing			38,252	68,954	160,763	160,763		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pumping Station Electricity Usage	379,809	242,779	84,558	188,138	573,829	379,543	7,468	505,750	523,451	541,772	560,734	580,360	600,672	621,696	643,455	665,976	689,285
Insurance	52,970	53,832	66,924	68,031	95,892	93,996	99,616	107,985	111,764	115,676	119,725	123,915	128,252	132,741	137,387	142,196	147,172
Drain Maintenance	683,540	823,466	763,367	808,893	850,043	1,002,297	726,106	1,043,543	1,080,067	1,117,869	1,156,995	1,197,490	1,239,402	1,282,781	1,327,678	1,374,147	1,422,242
Environmental Works	5,283	15,873	19,578	17,808	15,041	26,000	39,069	49,069	50,786	52,564	54,404	56,308	58,279	60,318	62,429	64,615	66,876
Administration & Establishment	552,154	559,536	578,579	621,767	702,219	746,821	729,624	807,238	835,491	864,734	894,999	926,324	958,746	992,302	1,027,032	1,062,978	1,100,183
EA Precept	276,552	276,552	276,552	276,552	276,552	276,552	276,552	276,552	286,231	296,249	306,618	317,350	328,457	339,953	351,851	364,166	376,912
Rechargeable Expenditure	440,875	315,597	743,006	621,532	382,186	410,525	251,857	372,093	385,116	398,595	412,546	426,985	441,930	457,397	473,406	489,975	507,125
Solar Panel Expenditure	2,433	2,327	3,414	866	543	3,238	3,767	3,400	3,519	3,642	3,770	3,902	4,038	4,179	4,326	4,477	4,634
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>3,097,790</b>	<b>3,012,001</b>	<b>3,363,667</b>	<b>3,138,371</b>	<b>4,096,811</b>	<b>9,924,767</b>	<b>5,896,148</b>	<b>13,331,465</b>	<b>4,771,365</b>	<b>4,803,369</b>	<b>4,457,972</b>	<b>4,562,076</b>	<b>4,693,839</b>	<b>4,828,423</b>	<b>4,857,998</b>	<b>5,113,738</b>	<b>5,311,824</b>
OPENING BALANCE	1,242,027	1,220,944	1,234,636	1,262,024	1,432,256	1,422,242	1,422,242	3,813,828	2,637,493	2,491,752	2,347,965	2,281,120	2,263,503	2,273,351	2,313,763	2,495,693	2,598,947
Introduced from Plant Reserve		100,000															
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) IN YEAR	(21,081)	(86,308)	27,388	170,232	(10,014)	(438,042)	2,391,586	(1,176,335)	(145,741)	(143,786)	(66,845)	(17,617)	9,848	40,412	181,930	103,254	88,230
<b>CLOSING BALANCE</b>	<b>1,220,946</b>	<b>1,234,636</b>	<b>1,262,024</b>	<b>1,432,256</b>	<b>1,422,242</b>	<b>984,200</b>	<b>3,813,828</b>	<b>2,637,493</b>	<b>2,491,752</b>	<b>2,347,965</b>	<b>2,281,120</b>	<b>2,263,503</b>	<b>2,273,351</b>	<b>2,313,763</b>	<b>2,495,693</b>	<b>2,598,947</b>	<b>2,687,177</b>
Reserve % of Expenditure (Excl Grants)	45.36%	45.81%	43.69%	46.68%	40.26%	23.14%	72.59%	42.40%	59.17%	53.75%	51.17%	49.62%	48.43%	47.92%	51.37%	50.82%	50.59%
<b>RATE</b>	<b>12.60</b>	<b>12.84</b>	<b>13.16</b>	<b>13.71</b>	<b>17.53</b>	<b>18.84</b>	<b>18.84</b>	<b>19.59</b>	<b>20.37</b>	<b>21.18</b>	<b>22.03</b>	<b>22.80</b>	<b>23.60</b>	<b>24.43</b>	<b>25.29</b>	<b>26.18</b>	<b>27.10</b>
Increase in Rates		1.90%	2.49%	4.18%	27.86%	7.47%	7.47%	3.98%	3.98%	3.98%	4.01%	3.50%	3.51%	3.52%	3.52%	3.52%	3.51%

**BLACK SLUICE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - 04 JUNE 2025**

**AGENDA ITEM 12**

**INSURANCE ARRANGEMENTS**

**Cyber Security**

At a meeting of the Audit & Risk Committee on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2025, it was requested that the NFU provide quotes for various levels of cyber cover.

The Board currently have various cyber security measures in place to try and prevent a cyber-attack, but do not currently have any cover for if it was to occur. The Audit & Risk Committee, with the support of the Internal Auditor, felt it would be prudent to consider cyber insurance, given the increasing threat it poses and associated costs of resolving such an occurrence.

The below outlines premium options for the complete bundle cyber product via AIG. The AIG bundle options, and summary of cover are also included on pages 66-84.

Value of cover	Premium
£250,000	£1,339.42
£250,000	£1,451.42*
£500,000	£1,723.06
£1,000,000	£2,490.38
£2,000,000	£4,586.97

\* One of the options (£250,000) also includes computer crime coverage, to give an idea of the additional cost of this cover. This cover is excluded from the other options.

**Business Interruption**

At a meeting of the Audit & Risk Committee on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2025, it was requested that the NFU provide quotes for various time periods of business interruption cover.

The Board are currently insured for a value of £500,000 for a twelve-month period. The Audit & Risk Committee felt that a twelve-month period was perhaps not long enough.

*Example:* Fire destroying the Board's Office. Is a twelve-month period long enough to re-instate to the original position - considering a site clearance phase, new plans to be produced, the construction phase, the availability of builders etc.

The below outlines premium options for varying periods (the policy has Business Interruption cover on an "Income" basis and "Additional Cost of Working", and the following provides quotes for the relevant increases to both sections):

Time period covered	Premium increase (pro-rata)	Premium increase (annual)
18 months	£167.40	£425
24 months	£41.64	£106



# CyberEdge® Packages via AIG eXtra

<b>BREACH Bundle</b>	<b>IMPACT Bundle</b>	<b>COMPLETE Bundle</b>
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## BREACH Bundle

Essential breach response and data liability cover



## IMPACT Bundle

Plus post breach interruption and extortion cover



## COMPLETE Bundle

Broadest package of cyber coverages

Click on the icon below for summary movie

BREACH Bundle	IMPACT Bundle	COMPLETE Bundle
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Security and Privacy Liability </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <b>BREACH Bundle</b></li> <li> Cyber Extortion </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <b>BREACH Bundle</b></li> <li> <b>IMPACT Bundle</b></li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Event Management </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Telephone Hacking </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Network Interruption: System Failure</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> First Response </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Network Interruption: Security Failure </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Network Interruption: OSP Security Failure </li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Criminal Reward Fund </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Network Interruption: Loss Preparation </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Network Interruption: OSP System Failure</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Loss Prevention Services (subject to eligibility, please refer to your quote/policy schedule) </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Loss Prevention Services (subject to eligibility, please refer to your quote/policy schedule) </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Loss Prevention Services (subject to eligibility, please refer to your quote/policy schedule) </li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <b>OPTIONAL For all Bundles</b></li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Computer Crime </li> </ul>

For more information visit [aig.co.uk/cyberedge](http://aig.co.uk/cyberedge)

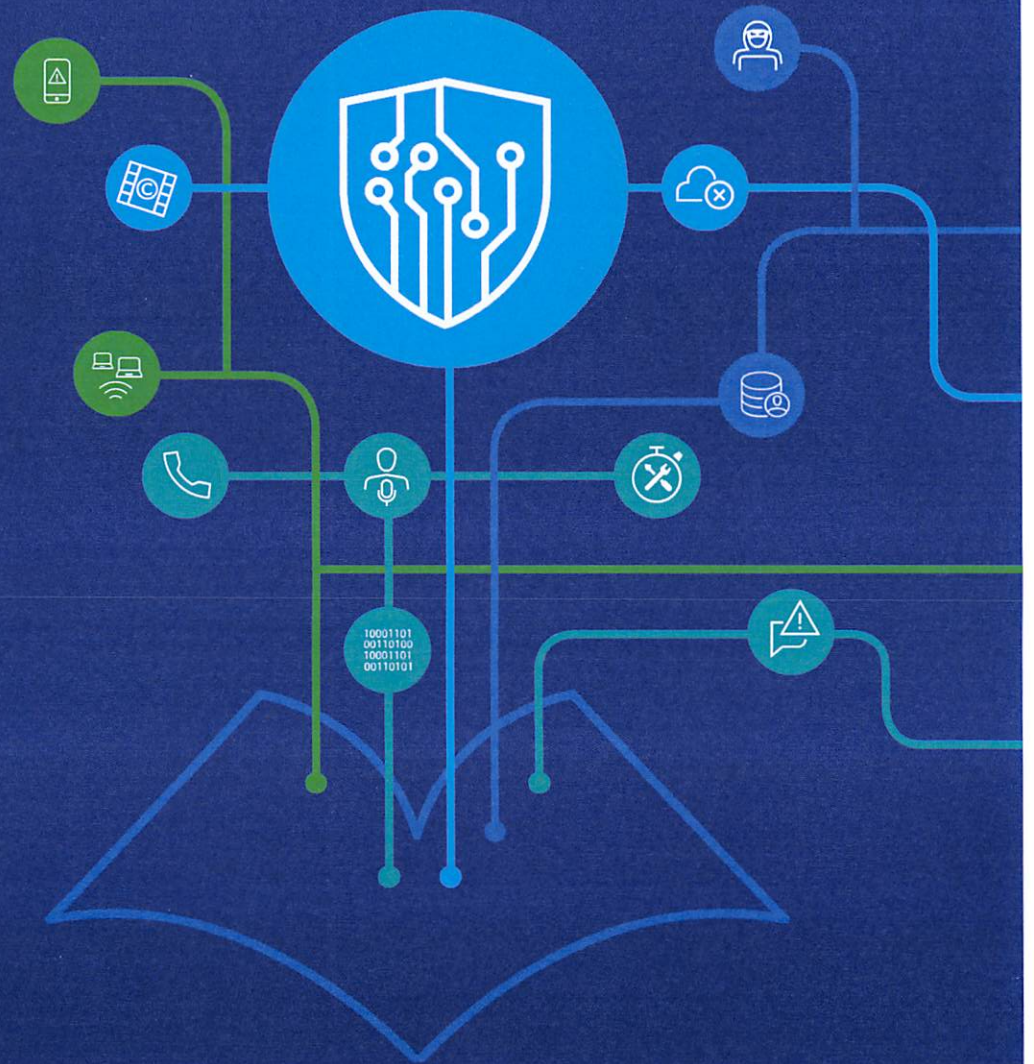
American International Group, Inc. (AIG) is a leading global insurance organization. AIG member companies provide a wide range of property casualty insurance, life insurance, retirement solutions and other financial services to customers in approximately 70 countries and jurisdictions. These diverse offerings include products and services that help businesses and individuals protect their assets, manage risks and provide for retirement security. AIG common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange. Additional information about AIG can be found at [www.aig.com](http://www.aig.com) | YouTube: [www.youtube.com/aig](http://www.youtube.com/aig) | Twitter: [@AIGinsurance](https://twitter.com/AIGinsurance) [www.twitter.com/AIGinsurance](https://twitter.com/AIGinsurance) | LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/aig](http://www.linkedin.com/company/aig). These references with additional information about AIG have been provided as a convenience, and the information contained on such websites is not incorporated by reference herein. AIG is the marketing name for the worldwide property-casualty, life and retirement, and general insurance operations of American International Group, Inc. For additional information, please visit our website at [www.aig.com](http://www.aig.com). All products and services are written or provided by subsidiaries or affiliates of American International Group, Inc. Products or services may not be available in all countries and jurisdictions and coverage is subject to underwriting requirements and actual policy language. Non-insurance products and services may be provided by independent third parties. Certain property-casualty coverages may be provided by a surplus lines insurer. Surplus lines insurers do not generally participate in state guaranty funds, and insureds are therefore not protected by such funds. American International Group UK Limited is registered in England: company number 10737370. Registered address: The AIG Building, 58 Fenchurch Street, London EC3M 4AB. American International Group UK Limited is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and Prudential Regulation Authority (FRN number 281109). This information can be checked by visiting the FS Register ([www.fca.org.uk/register](http://www.fca.org.uk/register)).

Cyber Edge – Package Options for AIG eXtra 01/2023





# What's Inside CyberEdge®

Start



## What's Inside CyberEdge<sup>®</sup>

-  Cyber Claims Expertise
-  Smart Cyber Application Form
-  Cyber Services
-  Coverage Sections

# CyberEdge

As the fourth industrial revolution becomes a reality, business success is increasingly reliant on the use of data. With evolving regulation around the handling of sensitive data and an increased reliance on computer systems to run a competitive business, cyber insurance is more vital than ever and CyberEdge's end-to-end risk solution helps you stay ahead of the curve by helping you manage your cyber risk and protecting you if the worst does occur.

This booklet outlines some of the coverage options available under CyberEdge. Please refer to your insurance broker or the policy wording and schedule for further details of cover and terms and conditions.

Cyber Claims Expertise

Smart Cyber Application Form

Cyber Services

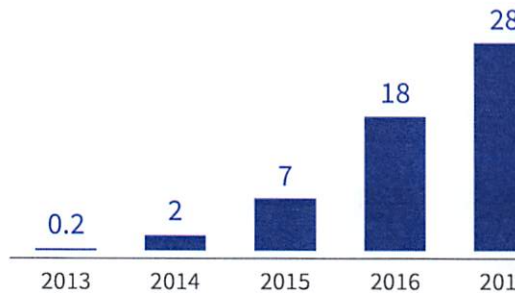
Coverage Sections

# Cyber Claims Expertise

CyberEdge is underpinned by the deep experience of our cyber claims teams - as more businesses purchase cyber cover, the volume of cyber claims we handle continues to increase (see chart).

Each year we publish our key cyber claims findings on business email compromise (see callout below). Our teams, constantly staying abreast of new cyber exposures, ensure your business is in the safest hands whenever and wherever they operate.

AIG EMEA Cyber claims received per year as % of total



Some cyber claims scenarios are covered in our booklet, for the latest Cyber claims and detailed claims examples click here.

Cyber claims trends



## Business email compromise #1 cause

The top cause of AIG cyber claims in 2018, often linked to phishing emails deceiving employees into enabling access to their email accounts. Criminals can then send and receive emails from the victim's email address, targeting accounts staff responsible for sending payments, requesting money transfers, tax records and other sensitive data.

## Targeted ransomware on the rise

Ransomware caused 26% of cyber claims notifications in 2017. It became less prevalent in 2018 (18% of cyber claims notifications) but there have been increasing instances of ransomware attacks targeted at selected companies with very high financial and business impacts.

[View full report](#)



Cyber claims trends





Cyber Claims  
Expertise



Smart Cyber  
Application Form



Cyber  
Services



Coverage  
Sections

# Smart Cyber Application Form

Our Smart Application gives easy access to cyber risk metrics. By responding to a few questions on the smart application form businesses can obtain insights into the cyber risks they face and the threat likelihoods via a complimentary summary report.

Should they purchase AIG cyber coverage, they will receive a comprehensive report including risk reducing qualities of their controls, analysis of potential losses to a privacy breach or denial of service attack and an assessment of their compliance with CIS Security Controls to help identify potential weaknesses in cyber defences.

## Summary Report includes:

(FOR COMPLETING APPLICATION FORM)

- Quick scores of cyber readiness
- Top 5 risk scenarios
- Risk Indices for key threat categories
- Summary of data breach and DoS impacts

[View sample](#)



## Executive Report includes:

(FOR PURCHASING A CYBEREDGE POLICY)

- Cyber readiness peer benchmarking
- Threat likelihoods
- Prioritised risk practices
- Cyber control effectiveness
- Data breach probabilities and impacts
- CIS alignment scores across controls
- DoS probabilities and impacts
- Business impact details
- Residual risk details and scenarios
- View sample Executive report

[View sample](#)



[Smart Application movie](#)



# What's Inside CyberEdge<sup>®</sup>



Cyber Claims  
Expertise



Smart Cyber  
Application Form



Cyber  
Services



Coverage  
Sections

## Cyber Services

CyberEdge includes a host of complimentary and discounted tools and services to provide knowledge, training, security and consultative solutions for clients purchasing CyberEdge and spending more than £5,000 in premium.

To access these services please visit [www.aig.com/cyberriskconsulting](http://www.aig.com/cyberriskconsulting) and complete the contact form, or email us at [cyberriskconsulting@aig.com](mailto:cyberriskconsulting@aig.com).



Complimentary  
services



Fee-based  
services





## Complimentary Services

The following complimentary tools and services are included with each CyberEdge policy for eligible clients\*



### AIG Cyber Services Orientation

One hour with an AIG Risk Consultant to address questions around risk posture and discuss complimentary services available.



### Employee CyberSecurity training

Employee training and compliance service supported by a phishing simulator



### Cybersecurity Information Portal

Employee training and compliance service supported by a phishing simulator.



### Blacklist IP Blocking

Employee training and compliance service supported by a phishing simulator



### Security Ratings

Network security scoring of your suppliers systems using an easy A-F grading system.



### Infrastructure Vulnerability Scanning

Expert review of property and casualty portfolio to determine anticipated response to spectrum of cyber loss scenarios



### Insurance Portfolio Diagnostic

Expert review of property and casualty portfolio to determine anticipated response to spectrum of cyber loss scenarios.



### Endpoint Detection

Advanced threat detection capability across the client's business environment.

\*Clients purchasing CyberEdge and spending more than £5,000 in premium qualify for these complimentary services.



## Fee-based Services

CyberEdge Clients can also improve their level of protection and preparation by taking advantage of additional services at preferred rates from AIG's cyber risk consultants and our expert partners.



Office of the CISO from **Optiv**  
On-demand access to virtual, interim, and staffed CISO expertise as well as critical security advisory services.



Quantification Workshop and Insurance Portfolio Stress Test from **Axio**  
Helps clients understand their cyber exposure in financial terms and subsequently, how a variety of representative cyber loss scenarios might be treated by the client's entire insurance portfolio.



BitSight Security Ratings from **BitSight Technologies**  
Lets clients measure and monitor their own network and those of their third party vendors.



Dark Net Intelligence from **BlueVoyant**  
Helps clients stay apprised of what the latest chatter is inside the dark net.

# What's Inside CyberEdge<sup>®</sup>

- Cyber Claims Expertise
- Smart Cyber Application Form
- Cyber Services
- Coverage Sections

## Coverage Sections

CyberEdge is flexible modular policy which allows businesses to select coverage that match their specific risk profile.

- |                                |   |                      |   |
|--------------------------------|---|----------------------|---|
| First Response                 | → | Cyber Extortion      | → |
| Event Management               | → | Network Interruption | → |
| Security and Privacy Liability | → | Criminal Reward Fund | → |
| Digital Media                  | → | Telephone Hacking    | → |
| Computer Crime                 | → |                      |   |



# First Response

The first 24 hours are vital when responding to a cyber incident and AIG's First Response service delivers best-in-class legal and IT forensics within 1 hour of ringing our hotline.

The coordinated response is provided for 48 or 72 hours depending on the policy. This tried and tested service is an outstanding market differentiator for CyberEdge and can be used whenever clients have (or suspect) a cyber incident, with no policy retention, without prejudicing policy coverage and without eroding the policy limits.

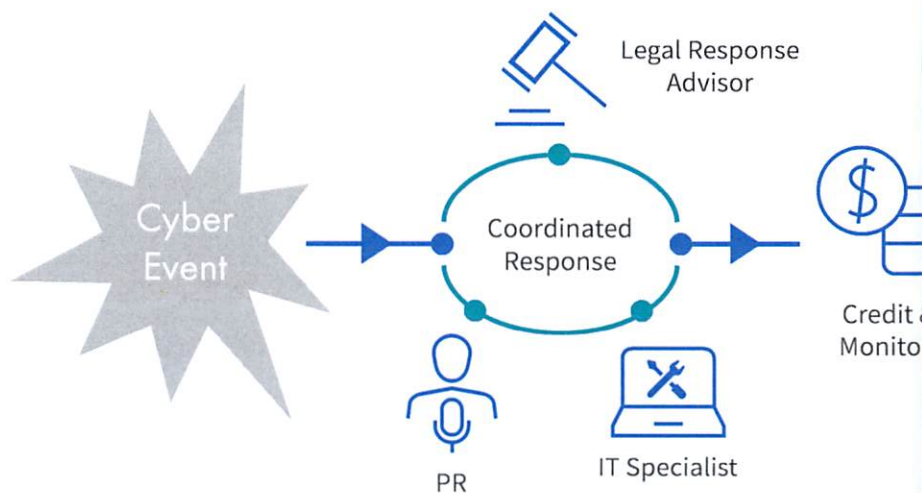




# Event Management

After a cyber-attack, organisations will require a range of services to get their business back on track.

CyberEdge's Event Management pays for Legal, IT, PR services, Credit and ID Monitoring in addition to Data Restoration and Breach Notification costs. When an event occurs, having the correct expertise on hand can result in dramatically improved outcomes - especially when underpinned by First Response.



Optional extras



Event Management cover can be extended to include:

**Electronic Data Incident:** extends Data Restoration coverage to include loss caused by physical events such as natural disaster, fire or flood.

**Card Reissuance:** extends coverage to include the costs to replace payment cards which have been compromised.

## What's New:

- No time limit on event management costs
- Includes cover for computer systems and industrial control systems
- Covers replacement of obsolete/unavailable system components with upgraded ones



# Security & Privacy Liability

Our Security and Privacy Liability module responds to third-party liabilities resulting from breaches of confidential info, security failure, failure to notify the regulator and breaches of PCI compliance.

Cover is more important than ever in the wake of the GDPR and includes defence costs and insurable fines in relation to any regulator of Data Protection legislation – from the ICO to its equivalent across worldwide jurisdictions.



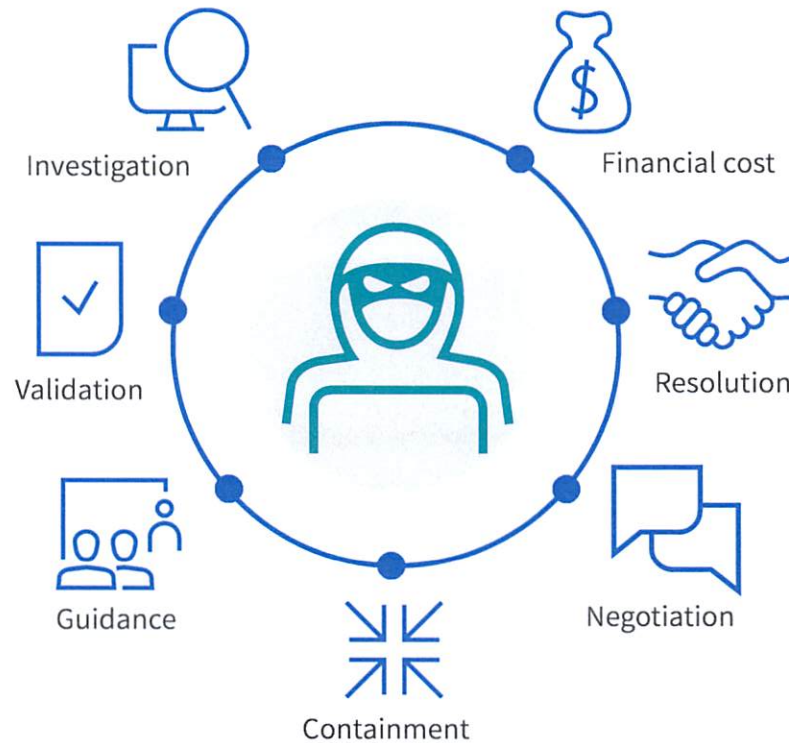


- What's New:**
- Covers a full range of cyber extortion services to identify, validate, and resolve an event
  - Covers use of Cryptocurrency to pay an agreed ransom.



# Cyber Extortion

As one of the more increasingly prevalent cyber threats facing businesses, CyberEdge covers an extensive range of specialist services to combat the use of ransomware for cyber extortion. From conducting investigations to validate a threat, to containment and negotiations to end an extortion event through to ransom payments.



Coverage Sections

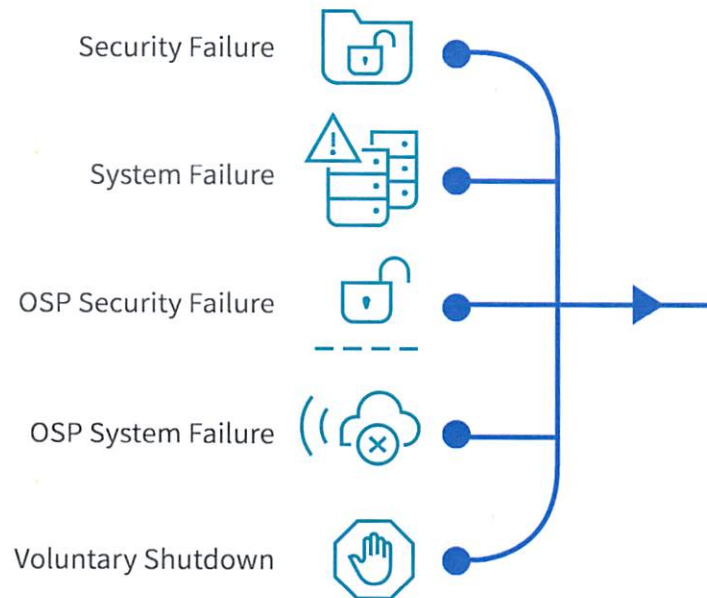


- What's New:**
- “Hour Zero” Network Interruption cover for events after the waiting period
  - “Best of both worlds” Network Interruption loss calculation (see callout)
  - Mitigation costs covered from beginning of the cyber event (subject to deductible)
  - Network Interruption cover after voluntarily shutting down system to contain an incident

# Network Interruption

Network Interruption covers loss of income, mitigation expenses and forensic accountant' costs to quantify the loss when business operations are interrupted by a selected peril including cyber-security breach, system failure and voluntary shutdown to contain a cyber incident.

The module can also be extended to cover losses from security breaches or system failures at Outsourced Service Providers (such as cloud providers or payment processors). For a qualifying event after the waiting period has elapsed, cover is provided from the event, subject to any retention.



Best of both worlds

### “Best of both-worlds” Network Interruption

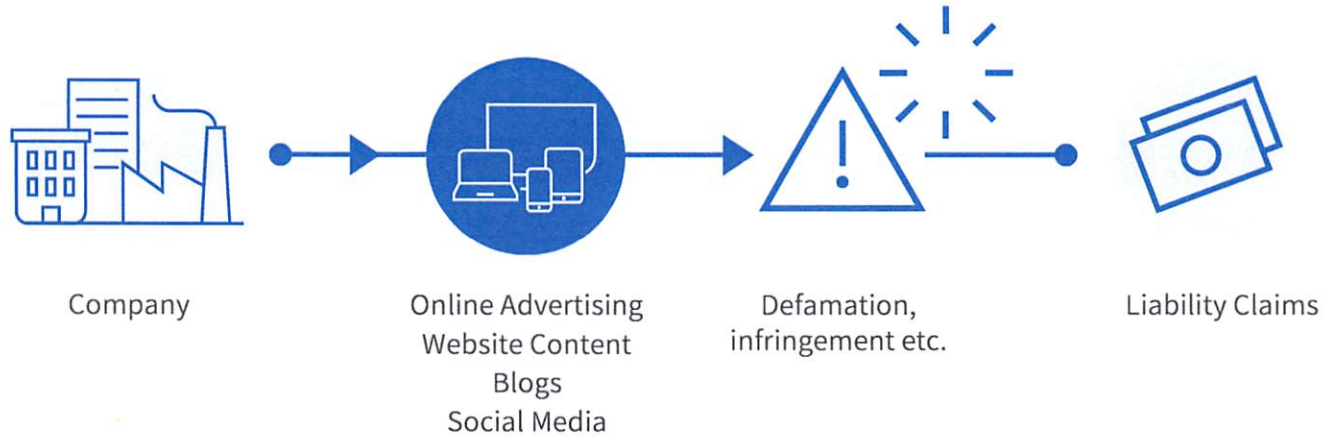
Clients in different geographies may be subject to different methods of assessing business interruption losses. CyberEdge 2.0 calculates Network Interruption losses on a gross profits basis (normal in UK and European markets) and on a net profits basis (American markets) and pays out on whichever is the higher amount. Note that the specialist costs of calculating the interruption can also be covered.



## Digital Media

In a fast moving digital environment, it is now easier than ever for companies to inadvertently infringe on trademarks, misappropriate creative material or inadequately check facts.

The Digital Media coverage section covers damages and defence costs for a breach of third party intellectual property, or negligence in connection with electronic content.

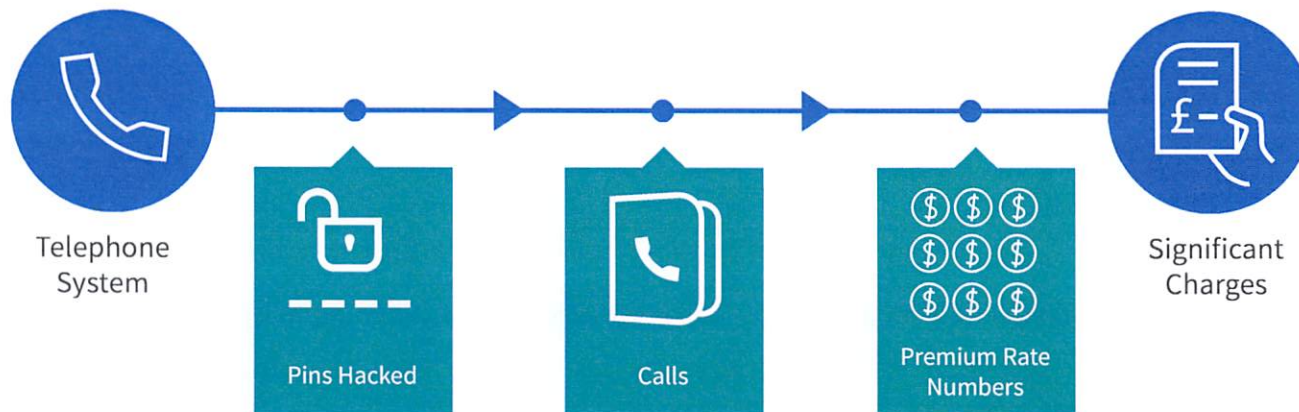




# Telephone Hacking

In addition to online hacking, businesses also face the risk of phone hacking. Referred to as PBX dial through fraud, this is where fraudsters target telephone systems to make calls to premium rate numbers.

CyberEdge's Telephone Hacking coverage section covers charges from unauthorised access and use of a business's telephone system, regardless of whether this is initiated on or off their premises.

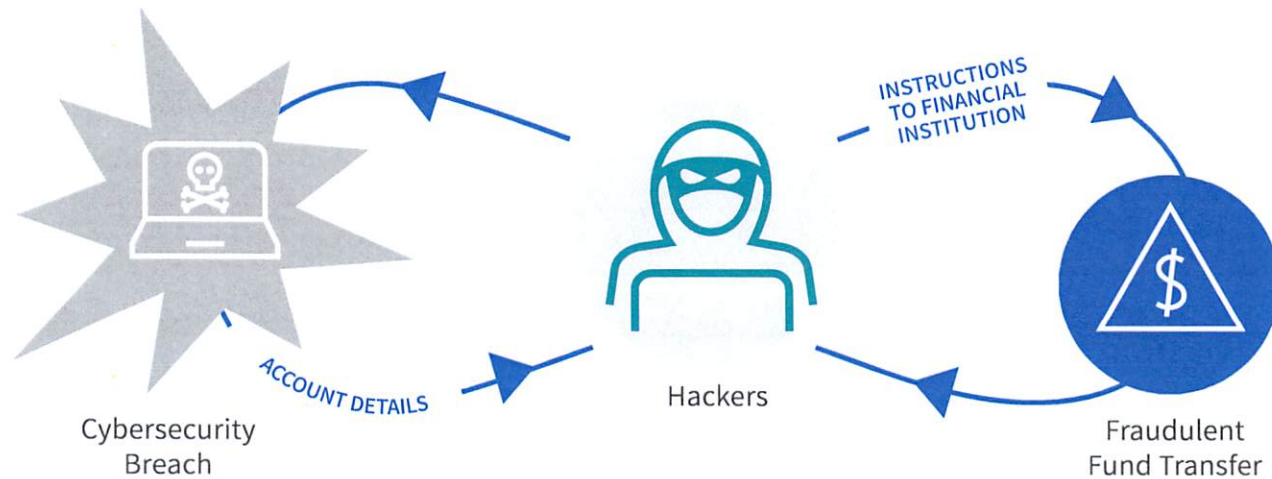




## Computer Crime

Fund transfer fraud is a form of computer crime where criminals use details obtained from a cybersecurity breach to fraudulently transfer funds from an account maintained at a financial institution.

CyberEdge's Computer Crime extension covers direct financial loss from fraudulent electronic fund transfers arising from a cybersecurity breach. It also covers impersonation fraud: where clients are tricked by fraudulent emails, into transferring funds or amending payment details.

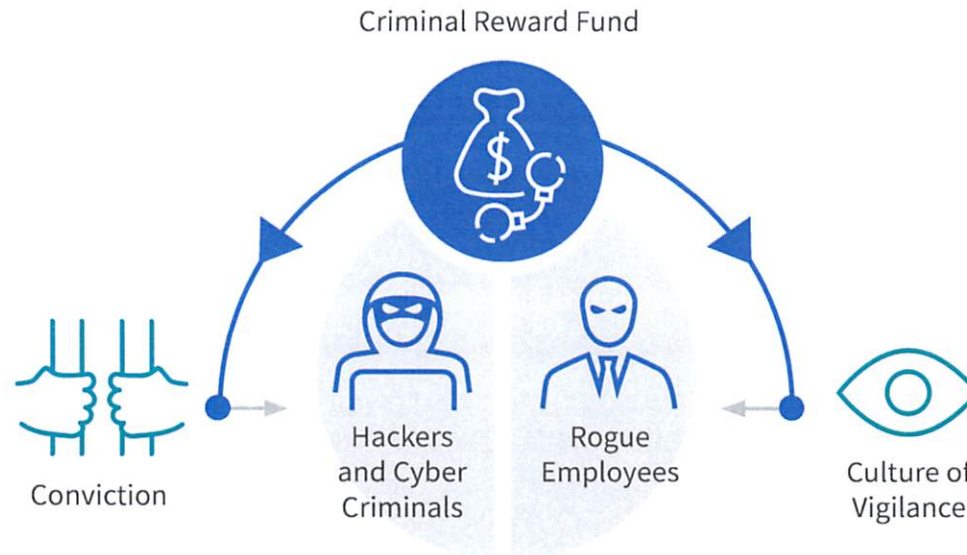




# Criminal Reward Fund

A Criminal Reward Fund may be paid for information that leads to the arrest and conviction of individuals who have or are attempting to commit an illegal act relating to cover provided under a CyberEdge policy.

This relates not only to hackers and cyber criminals but also includes rogue employees, thus rewarding staff who notice and report suspicious behaviour.



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# **BLACK SLUICE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD**

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - 04 JUNE 2025**

### **AGENDA ITEM 13**

#### **Compliance with The Eels (England and Wales) Regulations 2009 – Section 17**

##### **Eel screens**

- 17.— (1) This regulation applies to—
- (a) any diversion structure capable of abstracting at least 20 cubic metres of water through any one point in any 24-hour period; and
  - (b) any diversion structure returning water to a channel, bed or sea.
- (2) Before 1st January 2015, the [F1appropriate agency] may, by service of a notice, require a responsible person to place an eel screen in a diversion structure.
- (3) The notice may specify the dimensions and type of screen and where it is to be placed in the diversion structure.
- (4) On or after 1st January 2015, a responsible person must ensure an eel screen is placed in a diversion structure.
- (5) The [F1appropriate agency] may, by service of a notice—
- (a) exempt the responsible person from the requirement in paragraph (4); or
  - (b) require the responsible person, at their own cost, to alter the dimensions (including mesh size) and the placement of any screen placed under paragraph (4) to those specified in the notice.
- (6) It is an offence to fail to comply with—
- (a) a notice served under paragraph (2) or (5)(b); or
  - (b) paragraph (4).

##### **Introduction**

All 34 BSIDB Pumping Stations are capable of abstracting more than 20 cubic metres of water in a 24-hour period. The Environment Agency have categorised our Pumping Stations as Low, Medium and High. 10 Pumping Stations have categorised as high

1. Black Hole Drove
2. Chain Bridge
3. Cooks Lock
4. Donington Wykes
5. Gosberton
6. Great Hale
7. Holland Fen
8. South Kyme
9. Swineshead
10. Wyberton

Previously these 10 pumping stations have been issued exemptions as allowed by section 17 para (5)(a) of the regulations detailed above. When these Exemptions expired there was a delay renewing them and the following email was received;

*'Dear Daniel Withnall,*

*Eel Screen Exemption Notices -*

*Chain Bridge ( TF3072943282) - Cooks Lock (TF3139243221) - Donnington Wykes (TF2159735748) – Gosberton (TF1619329393) - Great Hale (TF2067742606) - Holland Fen (TF2488743673) Swineshead (TF2291543082) and Wyberton (TF3594940017)*

*I am writing regarding the above sites screening exemptions, which are held by yourself, copies of which is attached to this email.*

*In light of the failure to comply with conditions on the previous exemption, we are only prepared at this time to provide a short-term exemption for 12 months. A condition of this short-term exemption will require the provision of a planned programme of works.*

*In the instance of any further/future failures to comply with the conditions of this exemption notice, the Agency would be minded to not issue any further exemptions. This would mean in the site falling out of compliance with the regulations Ref :17(4) of the Eels (England and Wales) Regulations 2009 and could result in enforcement action.*

*As per Schedule 1 conditions we welcome the opportunity to liase with you to enable to application of the Eel Regulations assessment and determine the requisite eel measures for the sites within the Black Sluice IDB.*

*Please get in touch via this email or contact detail below.*

*Look after yourself and take care,*

*Regards*

*James*

*James Hooker  
Fisheries Area Team - FBG  
Lincs and Northants Area'*

The exemptions issued had the following conditions included in them.

**The Eels (England and Wales) Regulations 2009  
Regulation 17(5)(a)**

**SCHEDULE 1: CONDITIONS**

The following actions must be completed:

1. Liaise with the Area Fisheries Officer to enable application of the Eels Regulations regulatory assessment process and determine the requisite eel measure for **Great Hale Pumping Station located at TF2067742606** by **30/09/2025**.
2. Agree the timescale for delivery of the requisite eel measure, with the Area Fisheries Officer by **30/09/2025**.
3. Deliver the requisite eel measure by the date agreed with the Area Fisheries Officer.

A meeting has been held with the Area Fisheries Officer, James Hooker, Ian Cappitt from the PSO team and our Environment Officer were also in attendance. A number of questions were posed.

**Section 17 of the Act does not facilitate conditions being attached to an exemption notice, so what legislation is being used to impose these conditions?**

The response was that the EA guidance is being used to attach these conditions to the Exemption and the reason is to force organisations exempt to come up with a plan on how they will comply going in the future. We discussed the regulation and that it's only purpose was to require us to install a screen in front of a pumping station, which we all agreed was not a practical solution. The guidance then apparently states that as this is not possible we should implement other measures such as Fish and Eel Friendly pumps, reconfiguring discharge paths and Syphon breakers etc. I suggest someone has over stepped the legislation and a legal challenge would not support this in relation to Section 17.

**Given that funding to complete these works would have to come from Grant in Aid, and the costs, based on Swineshead high level estimates, are likely to be circa £20m is it reasonable that compliance for these Pumping Stations is required by 2030?**

All 112 IDBs in the country are likely to be bidding for funding to rebuild or reconfigure pumping stations as well as the Environment Agency. In the EA Anglian Region alone there are 447 pumping stations. If we allow £10m for each one as an average UK plc will need to find £4.5bn just for Anglian Region, for the whole country this will be a staggering amount, to protect Eels. Not all the cost will be attributed to eels as some assets will need to be renewed anyhow, but in BSIDB's case with the current configuration a 3 pump station will require a complete rebuild, instead of 3 pumps being refurbished for £15k to £18k as per the current estimates, we would have to build a new station for Circa £20 million to be able to install the new Fish and Eel friendly pumps and the required pipes etc.

I am not against 10 new pumping stations, and I am confident we could gear up to deliver 10 new pumping stations but where the £200,000,000 to do this is coming from, I have no idea.

**How will we attract the benefits to be able to complete the required works?**

No suggestion, Eels do not attract benefits in the current funding models for Grant in Aid, although these are currently being reviewed.

**What would Enforcement Action look like and would that be taken on the Board as me as the “Responsible Person”?**

The answer to this question was rather vague and he acknowledged he did not know what this would look like as it hadn't been done before. He did confirm that this would be a prosecution of the Board though, rather than the Responsible Person. The Notice and Exemption is issued to the Responsible Person as a representative of the Board. The Area Fisheries Officer is going to feed back on what this would consist of when he has asked the question internally of the EA.

Section 28 of the Act states;

**Penalties**

- 28.—** (1) A person guilty of an offence under these Regulations is liable—
- (a) on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum; or
  - (b) on conviction on indictment, to a fine.
- (2) If an offence under these Regulations committed by a body corporate is shown—
- (a) to have been committed with the consent or connivance of an officer; or
  - (b) to be attributable to any neglect on that person's part, the officer as well as the body corporate is guilty of the offence and is liable to be proceeded against and punished accordingly.
- (3) If the affairs of a body corporate are managed by its members, paragraph (1) applies in relation to the acts and defaults of a member in connection with their functions of management as if they were a director of the body.
- (4) “Officer”, in relation to a body corporate, means a director, member of the committee of management, chief executive, manager, secretary or other similar officer of the body, or a person purporting to act in any such capacity.

## **Agreed Actions**

The Fisheries Officer is therefore requiring the Board to do the following for the 10 High Priority sites, before 30 September 2025;

- Decide what work is required to comply with the EA guidance (not the regulations) and draw up detailed plans
- Cost the works and include them in future plans with agreed completion times

I have expressed that it is unlikely that 1 station will be compliant by 2030 (Swineshead) but as it currently stands it is unlikely that any others will be in the near future, unless funding becomes available as detailed above. If all the stations are built concurrently with a design and build time of 3 to 4 years it will take 30 to 40 years to replace the high category stations alone.

# BLACK SLUICE INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - 04 JUNE 2025

### AGENDA ITEM 14(a)

#### Mobile Phone Contract

In Autumn 2024, the Board made the decision to transition from EE to Vodafone as the mobile network provider due to a significant cost reduction. However, since the switch, multiple members of the workforce have raised concerns regarding Vodafone's unreliable signal, an issue that has been confirmed at all levels of the Board.

This signal instability poses a serious operational challenge, particularly as the Peoplesafe Lone-Worker system relies on mobile connectivity to function effectively. A weak or inconsistent signal directly compromises the ability of lone workers to access emergency assistance when needed, creating a significant health and safety risk.

Given the fundamental importance of worker safety, the Board must prioritise reliability over cost savings and urgently reconsider the decision. Restoring service with EE would ensure a robust, dependable mobile network, safeguarding both operational efficiency and, most critically, the well-being of the workforce

Early Termination charges would be due to Vodafone of £9,904.88, this includes the purchase of the phones, 17 months at the current monthly fee. A 12 month EE Sim Only Contract, as detailed below would cost £4,968, which is slightly less than the EE renewal price originally was.

	Data	Number of connections	Contract period	Price per month	Total cost per month
<b>Workforce</b>	10GB	17	12 months	£17.00	£289
<b>CEO, Projects Director, Pump Engineer &amp;GiA Manager</b>	Unlimited	4	12 months	£27.00	£108
<b>SLWP Officer</b>	10GB	1	12 months	£17.00	£17
<b>Total cost per month:</b>					<b>£414</b>
<i>Total cost per month currently with Vodafone:</i>					<i>£619.87</i>
<b>Total contract cost:</b>					<b>£4,968</b>

	Data	Number of connections	Contract period	Price per month	Total cost per month
<b>Workforce</b>	10GB	17	24 months	£15.00	£255
<b>CEO, Projects Director, Pump Engineer &amp;GiA Manager</b>	Unlimited	4	24 months	£20.00	£80
<b>SLWP Officer</b>	10GB	1	24 months	£15.00	£15
<b>Total cost per month:</b>					<b>£350</b>
<i>Total cost per month currently with Vodafone:</i>					<i>£619.87</i>
<b>Total contract cost:</b>					<b>£8,400</b>



Fens  
2100+



# Fens 2100+

Spring 2025 Newsletter



# Fens 2100+ Spring Newsletter

Welcome to the first ever edition of the Fens 2100+ programme newsletter!

We are producing bi-monthly newsletter to update our stakeholders on information regarding the Fens 2100+ programme.

## Fens 2100+ Overview

Fens 2100+ is working with farmers, land managers, water companies, internal drainage boards and other partners to develop a long-term plan for managing future flood risk in the Fens. It's being developed with, and for Flood Risk Management Authorities to ensure that Flood and Coastal Risk Management investment over the next 20-25 years and beyond supports the direct delivery of government priorities and ensures we can sustain a landscape that's home to over 750,000 people and worth in excess of £58bn to the UK economy.

### Why is Fens 2100+ needed?

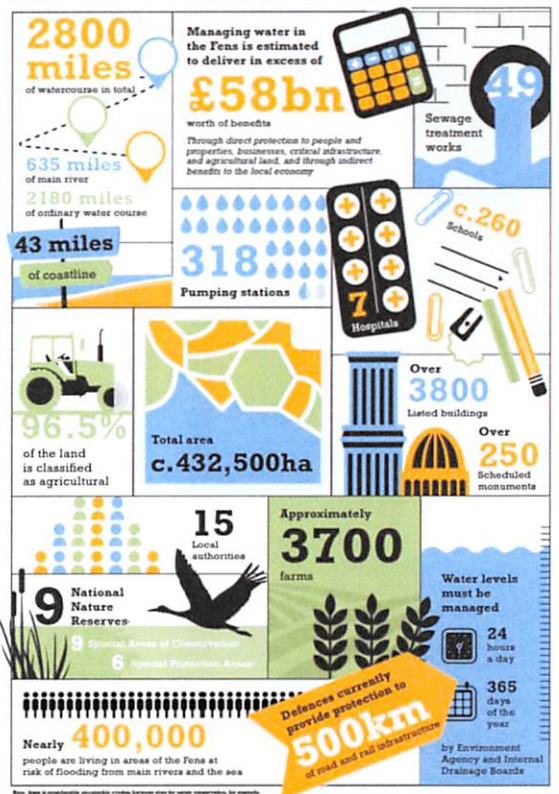
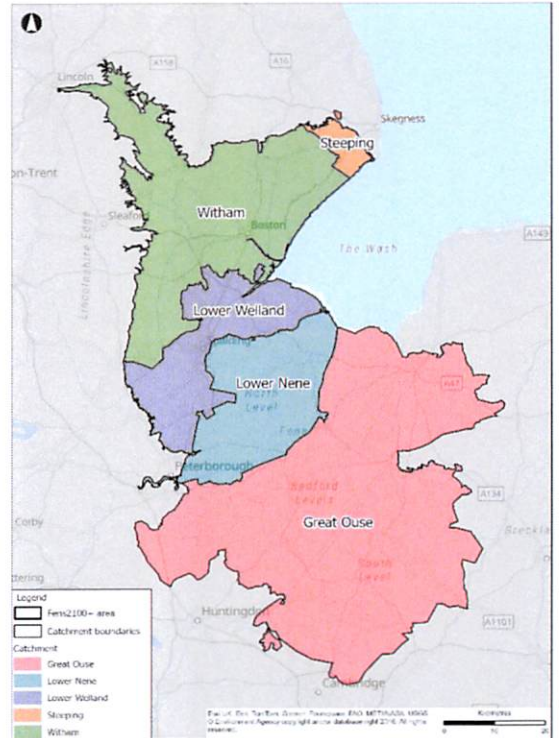
The Fens is a unique, highly engineered landscape, at the forefront of climate change. Water levels must be managed 24 hours a day, 365 days of the year – living and working in the Fens is only possible because of around 17,000 flood risk management and water level management assets. Many of the flood risk assets were built in the 1960s primarily to manage the land for food production and will need significant investment to maintain them now and long term. We know there's a significant funding gap – addressing this funding gap is a core reason for undertaking Fens 2100+ now.

### Get involved

To receive a copy of the newsletter please contact the Fens team at [Fens2100@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:Fens2100@environment-agency.gov.uk)

### Dates for your diary

Our next Stakeholder Forum is being held virtually on 19<sup>th</sup> June. Further information on the meeting and how to join will be shared shortly. If you are interested in attending, please contact the fens mailbox for an invite – [Fens2100@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:Fens2100@environment-agency.gov.uk)



Fens 2100+ Realising choices, investment and impact

## What next for Fens 2100+ programme?



### Catchment Baseline reports

We are developing 5 Catchment Baseline Reports which provide an overview of each catchment. The reports will give an insight into how flood risk management assets currently operate. They will also provide information on the current and future flood risk of each catchment.



Each report will describe what types of flood risk management assets are situated in the catchment and explain the benefits they provide to the area, as well as the costs to operate them. It will also explore future funding challenges and investment opportunities in our flood risk assets across the Fens landscape. The final draft for the reports further information on the Catchment Baseline Reports will be included in the next newsletter.



### Case for Change Document

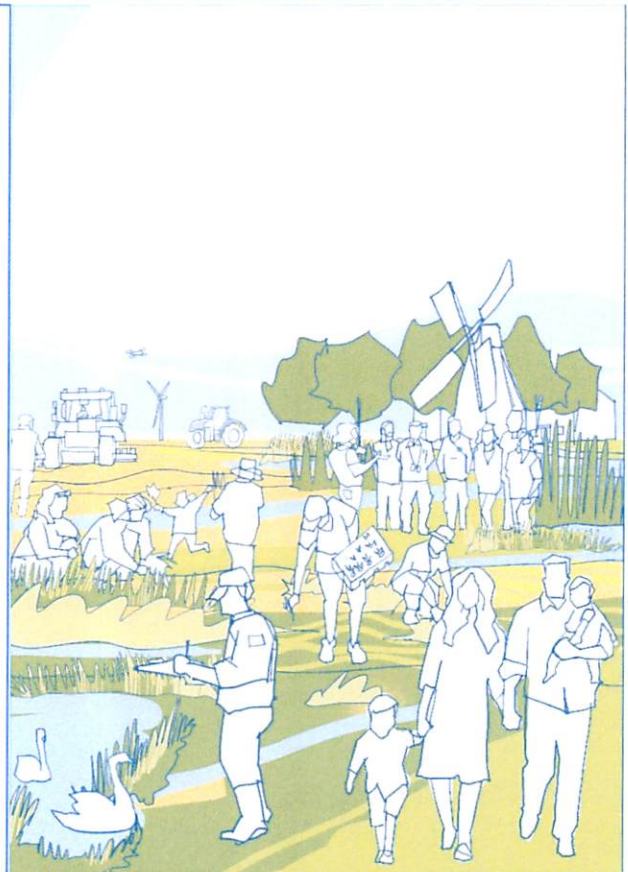
We are currently working on our 'Case for Change' document which is about transforming our approach to investing in flood and coastal resilience for the future of the UK Fens. We've been working closely with our Programme Board, with input from many other stakeholders, for the last two years to develop it. We'll be sharing a draft with our Board very soon for them to review within their organisations and to ultimately confirm their support for it – and its 3-year action plan by the autumn.

We'll publish it in the autumn which also aligns with our measure in the national Flood & Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy: *'By 2025 the Environment Agency will work with farmers, land managers, water companies, internal drainage boards and other partners to develop a long-term plan for managing future flood risk in the Fens.'*

## Our Partners

Fens 2100+ is a partnership project between:

Environment Agency	Association of Drainage Authorities (ADA)
Internal Drainage Boards (IDBs)	National Farmers Union (NFU)
Anglian Northern Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC)	Great Ouse Regional Flood and Coastal Committee (RFCC)
Natural England	Cambridgeshire County Council
Lincolnshire County Council	Norfolk County Council
Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority	Anglian Water



## Engagement activities

### Landscape scale transformation: The Great Fen

We visited the Great Fen site in February to understand more about the Great Fen project and how they are achieving landscape scale transformation in the Fens. The Great Fen project will be as one of the case studies in the case for change document which will be published in the autumn.



Extract from the case study below.

*'The Great Fen is one of the largest landscape level peatland transformations in Europe. The aim was to bring existing fragments of fenland habitat together through habitat creation and restoration and connect two National Nature Reserves (NNRs). The area covers 3,500 hectares, situated between Peterborough and Cambridge.*

*The Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire (WTBCN) is the delivery lead for this iconic work, in partnership with the Environment Agency, Natural England, the Mid-Level Commissioners and Hunts District Council. To date nearly 2000 hectares are now under conservation management, locking up carbon into the ground, reviving fen habitats and helping fen wildlife to flourish.*

For more information contact Lorna Parker, Project Manager at WTBCN

### Site Visit to Denver Sluice Complex

In January we were pleased to host a visit with representatives from Royal London Asset Management, Natural England, Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, and Waldersey Farms.

In 2024, Royal London Asset Management, on behalf of Royal London, acquired 21,000 acres of prime farmland in a £260m joint venture with South Yorkshire Pension Authority – their first investment into agriculture and natural capital. Located across Cambridgeshire and Lincolnshire, the farmland represents a highly versatile and diverse portfolio with the potential to increase agricultural output and productivity whilst seeking to employ new environmental strategies.



The visit was arranged as an opportunity for Royal London Asset Management and Waldersey Farms to come together to understand more about the water management infrastructure underpinning the Fens and see two critical assets in the Great Ouse Fens – Denver Complex and St Germans Pumping Station. It was also an opportunity to share information and experiences across the Fens and



### Fenland Soil Conference

The Fenland Soil conference was held in Ely in January and brought together a variety of stakeholders interested in lowland agricultural peat. Some members of the Fens 2100+ team went to the Fenland Soil conference to speak about the programme. We had a great day at the conference understanding the Fens from a peat management perspective

## Meet the Environment Agency Team

### Amy Shaw, Flood Risk Manager

I am currently the programme executive for Fens2100+, this is a partnership programme of work between the Environment Agency and partner organisations who are working across the Fens landscape. Together we will determine the FCRM asset management investment choices we will jointly make both now and into the future



### Steven Trehella, Technical Director

I work with clients, industry and research partners to develop the practical application of futures-thinking, adaptation pathways and resilience measures, to support decision-makers and stakeholders, in the creation of impactful and effective responses to climate change. Currently I support the national flood and coastal resilience innovation programmes, and other regional investments such as the Fens2100+ and the Lincolnshire coastal investment plan.



### Faye Scott, Engagement Advisor

I am one of the Engagement Advisers for the Fens 2100+ programme. My role is to engage with stakeholders across the Fens, informing them about the purpose of Fens 2100+. I coordinate and lead stakeholder groups such as the Stakeholder Forum, which provides opportunities to hear about projects and initiatives that others are working on and for stakeholders to learn more about Fens 2100+



### Amy Capon, Engagement Advisor

I am one of the Engagement Advisers for the Fens 2100+ programme. I advise and support the team to plan and deliver our engagement across the programme. I have a particular focus on how we work with our programme partners.



### Andy Bailey, Senior Strategy Advisor

I joined the Fens 2100+ team in Sept 2024 as senior strategy advisor. Before this I worked on the Humber 2100+ project for 5 years on the which built on my experience embedding environmental outcomes and supporting sustainable growth through local plans, economic strategies and major developments. I joined the team because Fens 2100+ is tackling big issues, differently and will make a difference.



### Louise Wilson, Strategy Advisor

I joined the Fens 2100+ team in September 2024 as a Strategy Advisor. I previously worked in area Hydrometry and Telemetry for 9 years which helped embed my local knowledge of the Cambridgeshire Fens. In my role as Strategy Advisor I am working on the Baseline Reports which is creating a suite of documents to give a clear picture of what we currently know and don't know, what is working and what needs to be done differently. I am also working on projects around lowland peat and how this links in with our flood risk work in the Fens.



### Darren Trumper, Senior Advisor

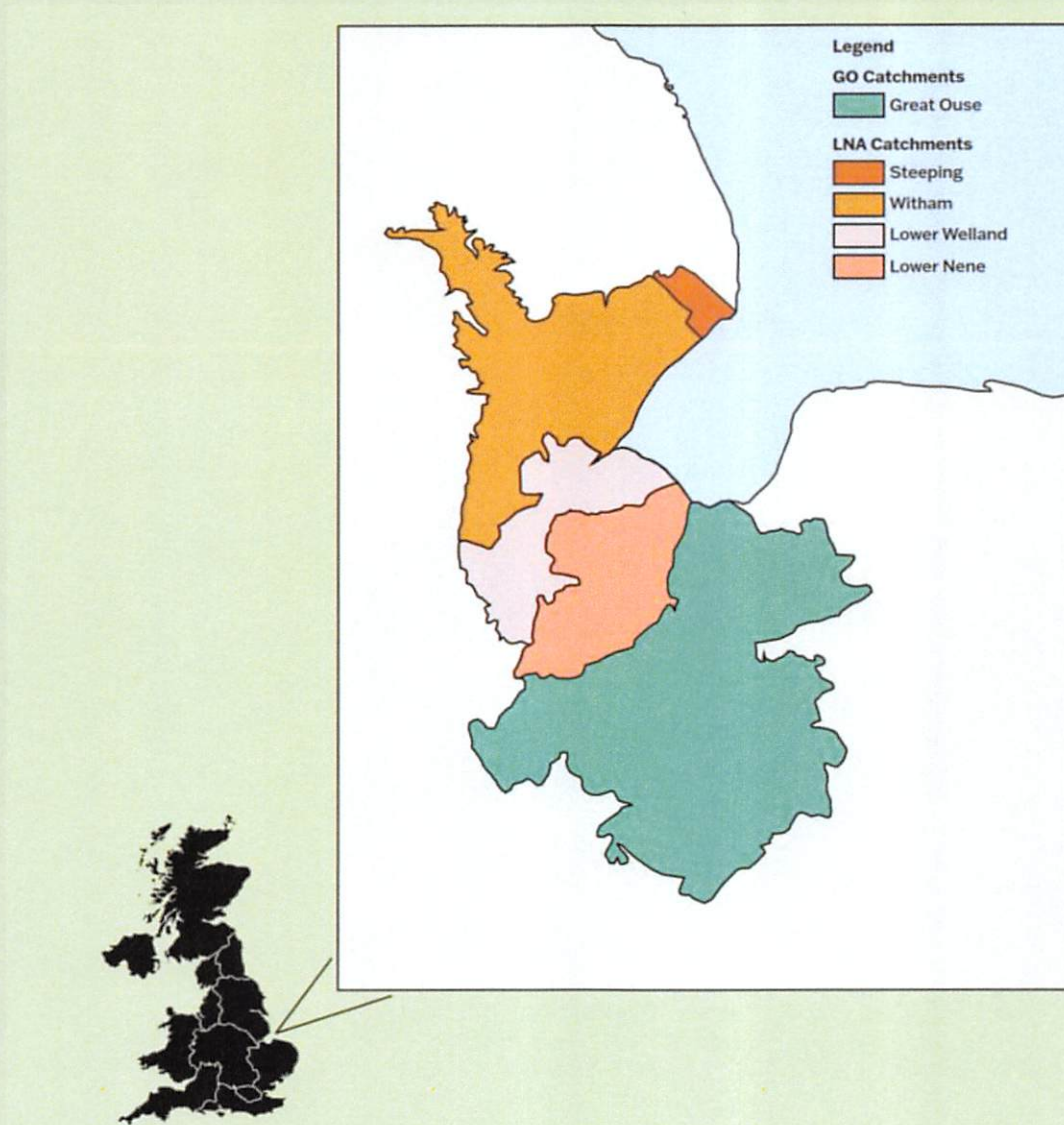
My role as an assets and catchments senior adviser, involves helping support and shape the way we collectively deliver assets and manage multiple catchments, for generations to come. I work with great people, aligning our decisions with climate change, sea level rises and the ever-changing land management within the Fens landscape. Water management is a big driver here and will require us all to play a vital role in shaping the future to protect people, properties, and the environment.



### Tom Freer, Project Manager

I have worked with the Environment Agency from March 2024 as the Project Manager for the Fens 2100+ scheme. My background is in project and programme delivery for various government departments, including the Ministry of Justice and the NHS. As part of my current role within Fens 2100+ I work alongside the team to facilitate the successful delivery of numerous projects and initiatives





**Contact and further information**

Via our email address:  
[Fens2100@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:Fens2100@environment-agency.gov.uk)

Visit our information page:  
<https://engageenvironmentagency.uk.engagementhq.com/fens2100>